

**OPINION 6**  
REFORMS TAKE OFF BUT  
UMMAH AT A CROSSROADS**WORLD 8**  
PILLAR OF SHAME  
REMOVED IN HONG KONG**SPORT 12**  
INDIAN BATTING LINE-UP  
GOOD ENOUGH: PUJARA

NEW DELHI, FRIDAY DECEMBER 24, 2021; PAGES 12 ₹3



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I DON'T  
HAVE WORDS:  
RANVEER  
10 VIVACITY**CAPSULE****DON'T WRAP FOOD IN****NEWSPAPERS: FDA**

**Pune:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in Maharashtra has issued an order, asking food vendors not to wrap any eatables in newspapers while selling them to customers as the ink used for printing is harmful.

**MAHA GOVT PASSES SHAKTI BILL**

**Mumbai:** The Maharashtra Legislative Assembly on Thursday unanimously passed the Shakti Criminal Laws (Maharashtra Amendment) Bill that provides for stricter punishment, including death penalty for crimes against women and children. The bill, which also provides for speedy trial in such cases, was tabled by Home Minister Dilip Walse-Patil.

# Don't drop your guard against Covid: Modi

**PM asks Centre to work in tandem with State Govts**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With no let up in the hyper-mutated Omicron variant's march in the country and a rise in Delta strain of Covid-19 virus, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday asked people to be "satark" (vigilant) and "saavdhan" (cautious) even as he directed the Centre to work in close coordination with the States to support their public health measures for containment and management under the "whole of Government" approach.

The strategy of the Centre for proactive, focussed, collaborative and cooperative fight against the pandemic should guide all our future actions, the PM told the officials at a meeting held here while reviewing the country's preparedness in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic crisis.

Hyper-mutated Omicron variant number has since then crossed the 236 mark, spreading in 16 States and UTs so far. As per the Union Health Ministry data, 104 people have recovered or migrated so far.

With 65 cases, Maharashtra reported the highest incidence, followed by Delhi

(64), Telangana (24), Rajasthan (21), Karnataka (19), Kerala (15) and Gujarat (14).

Modi reviewed the public health response measures for containment and management of Covid-19, strengthening of health infrastructure including availability of drugs, oxygen cylinders and concentrators, ventilators, PSA plants, ICU/oxygen supported beds, human resources, IT interventions and status of vaccination.

According to a Government statement, officials briefed the PM about the emerging scenario globally driven by the new variant, with an overview of surge in cases in countries having high vaccination coverage and presence of Omicron variant.

*Continued on Page 2*

Crowded Sarojini Nagar market amid rising cases of Omicron variant of Covid-19, in New Delhi, on Thursday

PTI

## Unlike Delta, Omicron may not land you in hospital, says study

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Amid a rise in Omicron cases across the world, a study has brought a sense of relief as it noted that Covid-19 infections with the Omicron variant are less likely to result in hospitalisation compared to the Delta strain.

It has thus suggested the

Omicron cases will not overwhelm the hospitals even if its transmission rate is high.

According to early results from the study conducted in the UK which is yet-to-be peer-reviewed, Omicron cases are 15-20 per cent less likely to attend hospital, and 40-45 per cent less likely to be hospitalised for a night or more,

compared to Delta.

The researchers from the Imperial College London, UK, noted that these estimated reductions in severity must be balanced against the larger risk of infection with Omicron, due to the reduction in the protection provided by both vaccination and natural infection.

*Continued on Page 2*

## Anti-Conversion Bill passed in Karnataka amid Opp's protest

PTI ■ BELAGAVI

The contentious "Anti-Conversion Bill" was passed by the Karnataka Legislative Assembly on Thursday, amid din, with Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai terming it as both "constitutional and legal", and aimed at getting rid of the menace of religious conversion.

Opposing the "Karnataka Protection of Right to Freedom of Religion Bill, 2021", tooth and nail, the Congress dubbed it "anti-people", "inhuman", "anti-constitutional", "anti-poor" and "draconian", and urged it should not be passed for any reason and that it be withdrawn by the Government.

The JD(S) too expressed its Opposition to the Bill.

The Bill provides for protection of right to freedom of religion and prohibition of unlawful conversion from one religion to another by misrepresentation, force, undue influence, coercion, allurement or



Karnataka CM Basavaraj Bommai speaks in Assembly, in Bengaluru, on Thursday

PTI

by any fraudulent means.

It proposes an imprisonment from three to five years with a fine of ₹25,000, while for violation of provisions with respect to minors, women, SC/ST, the offenders will face jail from three to ten years and a fine of not less than ₹50,000. The Bill makes provisions for the accused to pay up to ₹5 lakh as compensation to those converted, and with regards to cases of mass conversion there shall be a 3-10 year jail term and a fine of up to ₹1 lakh.

*Continued on Page 2*

## Modi hits out at Opp in UP, says LPG, roads, toilets not in their dictionary

**PM lays dairy plant, projects worth ₹2,100 cr in Varanasi**

RAMESH K SINGH ■ VARANASI

Targeting the milkmen community, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said development is not in the syllabus of the Opposition leaders who ruled the States for decades.

"The words of LPG, roads, toilets and other basic amenities the people need are not in their dictionary," said the PM while addressing an impressive public meeting at Kharkhinav near Varanasi-Jaunpur highway here on Thursday, falling in Pindra Assembly constituency, a segment of Machhalishahar (Jaunpur) Parliamentary seat.

"Mafia, Parivarvad, illegal grabbing of land are some of the words found in the dictionary of the rival political parties who were responsible for all the backwardness of this region of Purvanchal," he said, adding the Government work on the



Prime Minister Narendra Modi receives a memento from UP CM Yogi Adityanath during launch of various development projects, at a public meeting at Karkhinav (Pindra), in Varanasi on Thursday

PTI

principle of seeking the support, faith and efforts of all for their overall development.

Through the meeting after laying the foundation stone for ₹475 crore Banas (Amul) Dairy plant, the third one after Lucknow and Kanpur in UP, Modi indirectly targeted the traditional Yadav vote-bank of

the Samajwadi Party, wooing the milkmen. He also launched the "Dairy Mark", a unified logo and certification mark that ensures quality and food safety products across the country. "Strengthening the dairy sector is one of the top priorities of our Government," Modi said. "Seeing the double devel-

opment work and double strength of the double engine Government of UP, frustration has started brewing up among the Opposition parties because they had always played a politics of caste, creed and religion in their bid to come to the power in the State," he said.

*Continued on Page 2*

## Priyanka, Maya demand SC-monitored probe into Ram Mandir land scam

**Questions how UP Govt officials involved in scam could probe it**

PREETAM SRIVASTAVA ■ LUCKNOW

A day after the Ram Mandir land scam expose, Opposition leaders, including Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati and Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, started mounting pressure of a Supreme Court-monitored probe alleging that the enquiry ordered by the State Government is an eyewitness.

Leaders of all the Opposition parties, including the Bahujan Samaj Party, the Congress, the Samajwadi Party, the AAP, questioned how the UP Government officials involved in the scam could probe it.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday ordered a probe after an inves-



Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra addresses a Press conference in New Delhi on Thursday

Ranjan Dinnri / Pioneer

titigative report found that Government officials and their relatives have purchased land around Ram Mandir construction site post-Ayodhya judgment.

Attacking the Government over the issue, Bahujan Samaj Party president Mayawati has sought Supreme Court intervention in the alleged land scam in Ayodhya.

*Continued on Page 2*

## Maestros bat for Indian classical music in flights

**Eminent artistes, ICCR urge Scindia to play this also at Indian airports**

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Eminent artistes, singers and music composers along with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) have urged the Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia to make it mandatory that only Indian classical or instrumental music be played in flights being operated in India and at airports in the country to connect people emotionally with the country's traditions.

Renowned music composer and singer Anu Malik, Manjusha Patil-Kulkarni, Kaushal Inamdar, Wasifuddin Dagar, Rita Ganguly, Shounak



Union Minister for Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia receives a memento from President ICCR Vinay Sahasrabudde, musicians Anu Malik, Pt Sanjeev Abhyankar and Pt Shaunak Abhisheki during an event for 'promotion of Indian music in flights operated by airlines of Indian origin', in New Delhi, on Thursday

PTI

Abhisheki, Malini Awasthi and Pandit Sanjeev Abhyankar and ICCR president Vinay Sahasrabudde signed the letter. The same was also endorsed by Rajya Sabha mem-

ber and Padma Bhushan awardee Sonal Man Singh, Padam Shree awardee Kailash Kher, Hindustani classical vocalist Pt Ajoy Chakrabarty and Kalapini Komkali. A few

years ago, Air India had introduced Indian classical music in some of its long route flights. Pakistan has been doing this since 1970.

The ICCR, which works

under the Ministry of External Affairs, said on Twitter that various suggestions were made during the meeting "including promotion of Indian music in flights operated by the Indian air companies". Scindia visited the headquarters of the ICCR on Thursday and met Sahasrabudde.

"... Playing Indian classical or light vocal and instrumental music in aircraft being operated in India and also at various airports be made mandatory for all India-based airlines," read the letter.

The letter added music played by most airlines across the globe is the quintessential of the country to which the airline belongs. "For example, it is most likely that we shall come across jazz in an American airline or Mozart in an Austrian airline and Arab music in an airline from the Middle East.

*Continued on Page 2*

Tourists walk along a road during light snowfall at ski resort of Gulmarg in Baramulla district of north Kashmir on Thursday

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# "MY HEARTFELT TRIBUTES TO BABASAHEB"

- Arvind Kejriwal



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# Jayant raps Yogi over law & order

‘Modi won’t sleep today as we have joined hands with Akhilesh’

PNS ■ ALIGARH

RLD president Jayant Choudhary said in a rally held in Aligarh that “Prime Minister Narendra Modi will not be able to sleep today since we have joined hands with Akhilesh”.

He added, “Will you support me as Choudhary did? Jayant further said, “If the person of the village has to reach the mainstream, then development has to be brought to the village. If you do not get a job, then there will be no marriage. Degree holders do not have employment.”

After the RLD-SP alliance, a crowd gathered to listen to RLD president Jayant in the rally organised in Aligarh’s Tehsil Iglas. Villagers had started reaching the rally venue Iglas since morning to hear the leader. SP president Akhilesh Yadav also had to reach to attend the rally, but he could not come due to corona.

Jayant said, “Yogi says we have improved the law and order, while the girls are still

being molested. These people were busy in saving the slayers of Hathras case. It is easy to take the name of Chaudhary Charan Singh, but it is difficult to follow his path. It is very difficult for BJP people. We will give jobs to one crore youth. If a coalition Government is formed next year, we will give 12 thousand to the farmers where BJP gives only 6 thousand. Peasants will uproot the opposing forces.

Our Government will give one crore rupees to the farmers who were martyred in the farmers’ movement. It is not my intention to create a ruckus, all I want to say is that the fire which is in the heart should burn.”

Akhilesh gave a message that due to positive corona reports of the family members, we will not be able to participate in public programs for three days as a precaution. Best wishes for appeal to all the workers to remain active with full enthusiasm and energy.

In the second rally, leaders of both the parties have given

strength to mobilise the crowd. This rally, to be held in this assembly constituency called Mini Chhaprauli, will also give an important political signal in western Uttar Pradesh. In the rally, both the leaders are doing the work of holding on to the farmers. The leaders of both the parties are excited for the first rally of the alliance.

In the rally to be held in Jatland on the birthday of former Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh, SP National President Akhilesh Yadav and Rashtriya Lok Dal President Jayant Chaudhary will again share the stage together. The rally to be held at the ground on Mandi Road of Iglas has been named as Kisan Diwas Celebration.

The minds of the people of western Uttar Pradesh are also being tested on the pretext of both the leaders. The crowd that gathers in the joint rally will also act as a script for the strengthening of the alliance in the West. The red and green color combination is also visible at the rally site. The BJP

may have won in the last assembly elections, but this seat is mostly dominated by the RLD.

## Akhilesh seeks Bharat Ratna for Chaudhary Charan Singh

**Lucknow:** Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on Thursday demanded that the Bharat Ratna be conferred on former Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh.

On the Kisan Diwas today, we demand that the Bharat Ratna be conferred on the former prime minister, who devoted all his life for farmers and the country, Akhilesh said in a tweet in Hindi on the leader’s 119th birth anniversary.

The birth anniversary of Charan Singh is observed as Kisan Diwas. **PTI**

## Previous Governments neglected farmers: Yogi

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Accusing the previous Governments in Uttar Pradesh of neglecting farmers, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said the farmers were forced to commit suicide in the State due to the anti-farmer approach and unscientific policies of the previous regimes.

“When the Central and UP Governments work in tandem with each other, then fruitful results are visible. A lot of them moved away from agriculture as they used to get so buried under debts that ending their lives was the only option left for them,” Yogi said on the occasion of Kisan Samman Diwas organised to mark the 119th birth anniversary of former prime minister Chaudhary Charan Singh in Lucknow on Thursday.

Paying tribute to Chaudhary Charan Singh, the Chief Minister asserted that the BJP Government is fulfilling the former farmer leader’s dream through welfare measures.

# SP workers planning protest at Modi’s event briefly detained

**Shahjahanpur:** Police briefly detained around 70 Samajwadi Party workers who were on their way to stage a protest at the Prime Minister’s rally which he addressed after laying the foundation stone of the 594-km-long Ganga Expressway. According to former SP MLA Rajesh Yadav, the SP workers were planning to go to Rauza ground before the arrival of the Prime Minister and UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to protest against the government for not declaring the district as calamity-affected following floods.

Circle Officer (city) Saravanan T said that around 70 SP workers were detained by the police and taken to police lines. After the public meeting was over, they were released.

“Owing to floods, the crops of the farmers have been destroyed, and in this scenario, the district should have been declared calamity-affected.

But, this was not done. And, the prime minister and chief minister are holding public meetings here. The

## Riots took place under SP rule: Anurag Thakur

**Agra:** There used be riots under the Samajwadi Party rule and now wrestling competitions are being organised, said Union Minister Anurag Thakur as he credited his party’s government in Uttar Pradesh with checking crime.

“During the last five years, we have seen Uttar Pradesh free from ‘gundaraj’ (hooliganism). Now, the state will be sports and development-oriented,” he said.

He said the BJP government in the state under the leadership of Yogi Adityanath is promoting sports. “There used to be riots during the Samajwadi Party (SP) government but during Yogi Adityanath government, ‘dan-

gals’ (wrestling competitions) are being organised,” he said.

On recent income tax raids on the premises of SP leaders, Thakur said some people need to answer questions about the money recovered.”

On the blocking of YouTube channels and “fake website” by the Centre, Thakur, who is the Union Sports and Information Technology Minister, said strict action will be taken against those involved in anti-national activities.

Thakur was in Agra to attend the award ceremony of the “Sansad Khel Spardha” at Eklavya Stadium in Agra. It was organised by Fatehpur MP Sikri Rajkumar Chahar. **PTI**

Samajwadi Party workers were going to show black flags, and register our protest,” SP’s Rajesh Yadav said.He claimed the SP workers had gathered at the party office in Khirnibagh

and were moving on foot towards the venue of PM’s programme when the police detained “around 600 SP workers” near Nishat talkies and took them to Police Lines. **PTI**

# Church reopened after 30 yrs in Srinagar

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Ahead of Christmas, one of the oldest churches in Srinagar has been thrown open after thirty years for the public to offer prayers after restoring its past glory.

The Lt-Governor of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha Thursday formally inaugurated the renovated St Luke’s Church in Srinagar .

The restoration and conservation work of St Luke’s Church has been carried out under the ‘Smart City Project’. The Christian community of Srinagar has expressed happiness at the government’s initiative to renovate and reopen the Church ahead of Christmas.

Addressing the gathering through virtual mode, the Lt Governor said that the lost glory of the oldest Church in Srinagar has been restored today.

“Reopening of St Luke’s



Church in Srinagar after restoration is a historic occasion to celebrate and imbibe Lord Christ’s message of sacrifice, service, redemption, love and compassion”, observed the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor said that the St Luke’s Church is a unique symbol of J&K’s composite culture, which was built in 1896 on the southwest slope of Shri Shankaracharya Hill.

St Luke’s Church is a single-storey building constructed on a cruciform plan. The Church follows the Gothic Style of Architecture which is distinct from the other important monuments dotted in the landscape of Srinagar. Attached to the porch, there is a bell tower which is three-story in height, mounted by a high pitched CGI roof with dormer gables on each side.

The surrounding landscape and approach to the church has been upgraded. The inside of the Church has also been redone with construction of Alter, wooden flooring, seating, window panes, access gate and porch.The Lt Governor congratulated the citizens of J&K, especially the Christian community and all the artisans involved in the renovation and conservation.

Before the restoration works, the Church was lying in a dilapidated condition, with the structural members suffering major damage. The CGI roofing was completely damaged, the rainwater intrusion from the roof aggravated the decay of important components.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor remembered Dr. Arthur Neve, and threw light on his life. Dr. Arthur served the people of J&K for three decades, by establishing this Church as well as saving many lives as a doctor, he added.

# Didi’s Cabinet colleague Kolkata’s new Mayor

TMC bags 134 out of 144 seats in Kolkata Municipal Corporation polls

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee who is also the president of the ruling Trinamool Congress on Thursday named her Cabinet colleague Firhad Hakim as the Mayor of Kolkata two days after the TMC romped home with a resounding majority winning 134 out of 144 seats in the historic Kolkata Municipal Corporation elections.

Hakim who was for the first time appointed Mayor in 2018 after his party colleague Sobhan Chatterjee stepped down is set to take oath next week.Hakim a close aide of the Chief Minister besides being her party’s most prominent minority face also holds the Transport and Housing port folios.

Hakim occupies a seat that had historically been graced by the likes of Deshbandhu

Chittaranjan Das, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and others.

“I want to thank Mamata Banerjee for giving me this opportunity to serve the people of Kolkata again... After taking oath as Mayor I will work towards implementing the ‘TMC manifesto’,” he said.

Earlier the Chief Minister instructed all the party councilors to “work continuously and submit your work reports every six months ... your performance would be evaluated according to the work you do and service you render to the people in your ward,” Banerjee said. Shealso declared the names of 13 Mayors-in-council.

“No one should think that after winning we can sit and enjoy the postand power ... this will not be allowed to happen ... everyone will have to work and work hard,” Banerjee

**In an apparent message towards women empowerment Mamata also announced that 9 out of 16 boroughs of the KMC would be chaired by women**

said adding “as the people’s representatives all of you have to be polite and humble ... you will have to shed your arrogance”

Atin Ghosh a senior councilor from North Kolkata was appointed the Deputy Mayor while Mala Roy --- who is also the party MP from SouthKolkata --- has been named the Chairperson of the House.

In an apparent message towards women empowerment Banerjee also announced that 9 out of 16 Boroughs of the KMC would be chaired by women. On an average 8 Corporation wards are clustered into oneBorough which is headed by a Chairperson.

According to a survey the women voters had voted for the Chief Minister in overwhelming numbers in the April-May Assembly elections.

While the TMC had won 134 wards, the BJP could manage to win only three and the Left and the Congress got two seats each. Incidentally the KMC elections saw the Left coming up to occupy the second position recovering from its earlier 5 percent vote share in Kolkata to garner about 12 percent votes. The BJP got 9 percent votes. In the Assembly elections the BJP got about 38 percent votes.

# HC refuses to intervene in plea seeking change in factual errors in bail order

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

More than three weeks after it denied them default bail in the Elgar Parishad-cum-Bhima-Koregaon riots case, the Bombay High Court on Thursday refused to intervene in a plea eight accused in the Bhima Koregaon violence case seeking a rectification of the ‘factual errors’ in the order denying default bail to them.

A HC bench of Justices SS Shinde and NJ Jamadar noted that the court could not pass any orders accepting or denying the claims made by the parties, or even listen to the arguments on merits since the accused had preferred to move the speaking to minutes application.

After the HC declined to entertain their plea, the eight accused told the high court that they would file a review petition against the order passed by the high court on December 1 on the ground that it was based on a “factual error”.

Appearing for one of the eight accused in the case, senior advocate Sudeep Pasbola told the HC bench that old the bench that the accused would withdraw the speaking to minutes application and file fresh pleas seeking a review of the HC order in January 2022 when the court reopens after the Christmas vacations.

The eight accused in the Elgar Parishad-cum-Bhima-Koregaon riots case – whose plea seeking a rectification of the ‘factual errors’ in the order default bail to them was not entertained by the HC bench – were: Sudhir Dhawale, Rona Wilson, Surendra Gadling, Shoma Sen, Mahesh Raut, P Varavara Rao, Vernon Gonsalves and Arun Ferreira.

In their plea, the eight accused told the high court that the reason for granting bail to Bharadwaj was a common order which included names of Gonsalves, Rao and Ferreira.

The eight accused stated that the statutory bail of all these accused first came to be rejected by Pune Sessions Court by a common order. The date of the arrest of the accused was common and hence they were all at par.“The accused 6 to 8 have been denied the same relief as accorded to accused 9 on account of factual error,” the application said.

The remaining five accused had filed the applications in 2018 and was pending in the Pune Sessions Court before it was transferred to the NIA Court in Mumbai.

Among other things, Advocate Sudeep Pasbola appearing for the accused, told

## Bhima-Koregaon riots case

the high court that in light of Section 362 of the Code of Criminal Procedure which restricted the Court from altering or reviewing its judgment after it is signed “except to correct a clerical or arithmetical error”, their current application for “speaking to minutes” would not lie.

He urged the Court to pass an order disposing of the precept and then the accused would move the Court with a plea seeking a review of the order. “What we have sought for cannot be granted through speaking to the minutes. There is a judgment which says that review is permissible,” Pasbola told the HC bench as he sought liberty from the Court to file review.

On his part, Additional

Solicitor General Anil Singh stated that while the application could be withdrawn, “they could always file review, even though it is not maintainable”. Noting that there was no requirement for liberty from the Court to file a review petition against the high court December 1 order denying them default bail in the Elgar Parishad-cum-Bhima-Koregaon riots case, the HC bench of Justices SS Shinde and NJ Jamadar said: “We need not grant you any liberty. If review is maintainable, then that can be filed. These are not just ‘factual errors’, we have made observations based on those facts”.

“What the applicants are seeking cannot be done through a precept for speaking

to minutes. Hence, the present proceeding is disposed of,” the HC bench noted.While rejecting default bail pleas by eight other accused, the HC bench had on December 1 noted that accused Sudhir Dhawale, Rona Wilson, Surendra Gadling, Dr. Shoma Sen and Mahesh Raut had never claimed to have filed an application for default bail after the expiry of initial period of 90 days from the date of their production till the fling of the chargesheet on November 15, 2018. The three other P Varavara Rao, Vernon Gonsalves and Arun Ferreira had not preferred to file such an application till the filing of the supplementary charge-sheet.

The eight accused are the first among 16 activists and academicians arrested in the case While Bharadwaj was 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 arrests of “Maoist-linked” activists were made under the FIR registered on January 8, 2018 at the Pune’s Vishram Baug Police Station in connection with the Elgar Parishad organised on December 31, 2017 by the leftist outfit Kabir Kala Manch (KKM) and Republican Panthers Party ahead of the January 1, 2018 Bhima-Koregaon riots.

It may be recalled that the scanned copies of 10 “incriminating” letters were among the virtual and physical documents recovered by the investigators during their simultaneous raids

conducted by the investigators on April 17 2018 ahead of the arrest of Wilson and other accused in the case.

Among other things, the NIA has charged the accused with promoting the activities and ideologies of the banned outfits, mobilising people and students, training in handling sophisticated arms and explosives.

The NIA’s draft charges said the larger objective was to conspire against and destabilise the governments of India and Maharashtra, threaten their sovereignty with large-scale violence, strike terror in the people, as per the draft charges.

The NIA said that to achieve their objectives, the accused – through a banned Leftist organisation and its frontal outfits - had arranged to raise Rs 8 crore for annual supplies of sophisticated weapons.

# 23 new Omicron cases logged in Maha, tally touches 88 mark

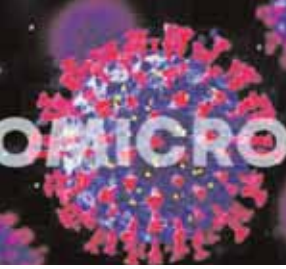
T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In a major spurt in the number of Omicron infections in Maharashtra, 23 fresh cases of the new Covid-19 variant were recorded in the State on Thursday, taking the total number of cases registered so far to 88.

Of the 23 Omicron cases recorded, 22 cases were reported by the Pune-based National Institute of Virology (NIV), while the remaining one new case was reported by the National Chemical Laboratory, Pune.

Of the 23 new Omicron cases, Pune reported a maximum of 14 cases ( three cases each in Pune Municipal Corporation and Pune Rural 3 cases each, while the Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation recorded seven cases).

The following is break-up of total 88 Omicron cases registered in the state is as follows: Mumbai –35, Pimpri-Chinchwad: 19, Pune rural --



10, PMC—6, Satara –3, Osmanabad—5, Kalyan-Dombivali and Nagpur--2 each, Buldhana and Latur –1 each.

Of the total cases, 42 patients have been discharged after a negative RT–PCR test.

Of the 23 cases reported on Thursday, 16 had international travel history and 7 patients are their high risk contacts. Of them, six had gone to Middle-east countries, four to Europe, two each to Singapore and Tanzania.

“There are 4 kids under 18 years of age while two patients are above 60 years of age. Of the 23 persons who tested positive for Omicron, 18 patients have

been fully vaccinated, while one patient i not vaccinated and four are not eligible for vaccination.

Meanwhile, the authorities said the total number of passengers who arrived at Mumbai, Pune and Nagpur airports since December 1 was 1,56,115 (22,859 from At-risk countries and rest 1,56,115 are from other countries), while passengers whose RT-PC tests have been done are 27,819 (22,859 are from high-risk countries and 4960 are from other countries). Similarly, RT-PCR positive and samples sent for genomic sequencing was 117 (117 are from at-risk countries and 39 are from other countries).

Additionally, field surveillance of all international passengers who have arrived since 1st November is underway.

“Through airport and field surveillance, 670 samples have been sent for genomic sequencing. The results of 124 are awaited so far,” the daily health bulletin said.

# Packaged food items need to have FoPL: Experts

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Packaged foods and beverages should have clear mandatory Front of Pack warning Labels (FoPL) to help consumers make healthy and safe decisions, lawmakers and experts said here as they noted how rising non-communicable diseases (NCDs) including diabetes have overburdened the country’s health system.

According to the ICMR State Level Disease Burden Initiative, 2016, NCDs, such as heart attack, stroke, diabetes and cancer accounted to an estimated 60 lakhs deaths, constituting 62 per cent of the total mortality of that year.

Diets high in fat, salt and sugar (HFSS) is a major risk factor for these chronic ailments.Rajya Sabha BJP Member, Sushil Modi called for stringent health warning on the unhealthy packaged foods specifying that it has HFSS.

“The warnings should be on the lines of those on the cigarette packets that “smoking is injurious to health.”“This would help people make healthy and safer choices,” the



Rajya Sabha MPs Deepak Prakash, Mahesh Poddar, Sushil Modi, Lt Gen (Retd) Dr DP Vats, Ram Kumar Verma and Pratap Shukla and Lok Sabha MP from Ranchi Sanjay Seth attend an interaction organised by the IGPP, an advocacy platform, on ‘FoPL and its health impact’ recently in New Delhi

Pioneer Photo

former Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar, said, while participating at a first-of-its-kind roundtable discussion on “FoPL, impact of packaged foods on health” organized by the Institute for Governance Policies and Politics (IGPP), a policy dialogue platform here recently.

The MPs meet comes at a

time when India is deliberating on adoption of the FoPL for packaged food and beverage industry which in the absence of adequate guidelines has been rampantly dishing out packaged foods high in HFSS, resulting in a spike in NCDs cases.

Agreeing with his party colleague and MP from the

Upper House, Deepak Prakash stressed on launching an intensive awareness campaign for FoPL particularly in rural India where packed foods have penetrated at an alarming level.

Dr Naval K Vikram, leading diabetologist and professor at the department of medicine of the All India Institute of

Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi talked about the strategic role the warning labels (FoPL) can play in reducing chronic diseases.“With the easy-to-understand information printed on the food packets, people will avoid consuming unhealthy food.

“This would avert the NCDs crisis, mainly caused by consumption of processed and packaged foods having HFSS.

Warning labels would guide people to make healthier choices and even bring down consumption of unhealthy foods. “Those who participated in the debate included ruling party MPs from Rajya Sabha Shiv Pratap Shukla, Mahesh Poddar, Ram Kumar Verma and Lt Gen (Retd) Dr DP Vats and Lok Sabha BJP member Sanjay Seth among others.Senior fellow from IGPP, Dr Manish Tiwari talked about rising childhood obesity in the country with around 1.5 crore kids into its grip.

If appropriate steps such as making FoPL mandatory are not taken, India would soon become the world’s Capital of Childhood Obesity, he warned.







FIRST COLUMN

FTAs WITH VIETNAM  
NEED OF THE HOUR

India does not have any significant free trade agreement with prosperous markets in the world



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

Last week India was swamped by several senior leaders from the immediate neighborhood. First there was a host of bilateral meetings between visiting foreign ministers of five central Asian countries neighboring Afghanistan. These leaders also revived the India-Central Asia dialogue and met with the Indian prime minister, discussing regional issues of safety, security, stabilization of Afghanistan, and improving bilateral ties. Around the same time, Vuong Dinh Hue, President, National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, along with a Parliamentary delegation, was holding conversations with senior Indian leaders in New Delhi. The year 2021 also marks the golden jubilee of India establishing diplomatic ties with Vietnam. The External Affairs Minister rightfully pointed out that "as political and security partners, India and Vietnam have converging interests in a multi-polar and rebalancing world". Vietnam ascended to the international trade body WTO in 2007 and ever since



has amalgamated with global trade rhythms and rules and signed several free trade agreements (FTAs) bringing bounties for this relatively smaller nation. This south-east Asian country, ravaged by internal unrest and foreign attacks, has developed into one of the most promising investment destinations for all across the globe. This has been strategically made possible by carefully using bilateral and multilateral trade agreements as assets to its advantage. Consider this, Vietnam, an erstwhile communist state, has a flourishing trade agreement in place with many countries across the world. That it has successfully managed to negotiate trade deals to its advantage either as an individual country, like the EVFTA (Europe Vietnam free trade agreement) with Europe, or, as a member to a regional multilateral forum such as ASEAN and RCEP, speaks a lot about the sharp achievements by this country in few years. An FTA is an agreement between two countries or a country and regional/trading block which sets the ground rules of tariffs and duties for entry and exit of goods and services into each other's territories. One of the key factors that has facilitated any country to avail benefits of market access into lucrative geographies is by allowing mutually complementary conditions in domestic markets to trading partners. Most of these ultimately boil down to tariff and non-tariff barriers. Direct tariffs imposed by countries on entry of imported goods and non-tariff (barriers) constitute those dealing with regulatory practices, both taken together form the entire complex universe of free trade agreement negotiations. India does not have any significant free trade agreements with any prosperous market in the world due to the complex mix of domestic and global lobbies influencing each other.

India is considered one of the highest tariff nations on the world trade table with some for the most complicated and often repetitive regulatory practices and compliances. A telecom infrastructure equipment, not currently manufactured in the country, when imported, may have to undergo a compliance and safety test in multiple labs around the country before it can be certified fit for use. Most of the labs would be guided by their own regulatory practices and will have separate clearance timelines. Labor laws and land acquisition, investment guarantee are other key factors which impact the sentiments. This brings one back to India and Vietnam both of which are on different trajectories on the trade front. However, they are extremely important for each other in the strategic Indo-Pacific Region. India referred to increasing mutual trade with Vietnam from \$10 bn in 2020 to \$12 in 2021 and reiterated the need to promote resilient, reliable and trusted supply chains but with a no trade agreement in place, it would be a tough task.

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

# Green shoots for agri sector with NEP2020

The Government must take steps to initiate and integrate agricultural education in middle and senior secondary schools across the country

The holistic, inclusive, flexible and multidisciplinary approach adopted by the Government towards the formulation and implementation of the National Education policy (NEP) 2020, has raised the expectations of all the stakeholders. The aim of the NEP is to bring the next generations of our students at par with international standards by making them globally competitive and stop the outflow of creamy layer of Indian students to universities in developed countries. The reforms suggested are expected to transform India into a "global knowledge power — the Vishwa Guru" as envisaged by the Prime minister, Narendra Modi.

The new policy talks about establishing a single regulator for higher education in the form of National Research Foundation which would ensure funding for outstanding peer-review research and to actively promote research in universities and colleges. The Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) should be governed by highly qualified independent boards having academic and administrative autonomy who would ensure the appointment of competent and experienced faculty and fill up institutional positions on merit.

Agriculture plays a crucial role in feeding the masses and providing employment to a large section of Indian population. But unfortunately, the NEP has no specific mention about agricultural education per se. It mentions "show the way to reform and re-engineer India's agriculture education system in conjunction with the systems for other branches of education, especially such that it can deliver high-quality higher education, with equity and inclusion".

Taking notice of this omission, a group of more than 60 eminent scientists, professionals, education and policy related experts from India and abroad, representing the newly formed "Indian Agriculture Advancement Group International (IAAG), organized an international webinar to discuss about the need for an orientation and reforms in India's agricultural education system in order to make it relevant, efficient and effective in line with NEP.

The convener of IAAG International, Ramesh Deshpande, submitted the report "Re-engineering India's Agricultural Education" prepared by the PM's group. The report stated that India has a robust Agricultural Education System comprising of 73 agricultural universities- State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) — 62, Deemed Universities — 5, Central Agricultural Universities — 2 and Central Universities with agricultural faculties- 4. Unfortunately, they are being badly managed with outdated curriculum and working with the mindset of the early 1990s when Green Revolution started waning away and agriculture growth became sluggish. At present, the SAUs are facing a range of challenges in terms of governance with little or no autonomy for the Vice Chancellors, frequent and unnecessary interventions by government officials and



THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR IN INDIA IS PASSING THROUGH A SENSITIVE AND CRITICAL PHASE. THE COUNTRY HAS FACED ONE OF THE LONGEST FARMERS' AGITATION BECAUSE FARMING HAS BECOME ECONOMICALLY UNVAILABLE DUE TO FRAGMENTATION OF FARM HOLDINGS AND IMBALANCE BETWEEN THE INPUT AND OUTPUT RATIO OF FARM ECONOMICS

(The writer is a senior journalist and Chairman, Panwar Group of Institutions, Solan (HP). The views expressed are personal.)



politicians, lack of meritocracy in education, limited Nation-State coordination, disconnect between research, extension and education, inadequate investment and imbalance in resource allocation, lack or slow implementation of reforms and above all outdated curriculum and infrastructure and no accountability of faculty performance in time-bound promotions.

While appreciating the positive steps taken by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for implementation of some recommendations of the NEP, the IAAG members feel much more needs to be done. Firstly, the role of ICAR should be explicitly defined and delineated under the NEP. There should be a strong ICAR/DARE system with the creation of an independent "National Agricultural Education Council" as an apex body to monitor, coordinate and have an oversight function at the national level. Secondly, effective steps need to be taken to evolve a mechanism and ways to initiate and integrate agricultural education in middle and senior secondary schools. Thirdly, SAUs need to aim for excellence through diversification and making the course curriculum more relevant and flexible and ensuring faculty to generate resources by competing for external grants thus reducing the dependence on public funds. Fourthly, create a "National Agricultural Research and Innovation Fund" with an initial allocation of ₹1,000 crore under ICAR.

Fifthly, the National Agriculture Research and Extension System (NARES) must integrate Science Social Responsibility with Corporate Social Responsibility leading to effective Public Private Partnership (PPP). It must enhance the complementarity of ICAR institutes and SAUs in different agri-

ecosystems to be more 'vocal for local' and double the farmer's income while meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. It must create a "National Mission on Youth" to motivate and attract youth in agriculture to act as technology agents, extension service providers and successful entrepreneurs. Sixthly, steps should be taken to transform the Land Grant University System into the world class Multidisciplinary Education and Research Universities (MERU) with the flexibility for the entry-exit system and to embrace non-formal vocational education for needed professionalism and skill development in agriculture. This system is working effectively in the US from where we adopted the Land Grant University System. The universities in the US enjoy direct linkages with Community Colleges which offer two-year Associate Degrees with provision of flexible entry and exit and vertical mobility by way of transfer of credits to four-year colleges and universities. Students coming from underprivileged and low-income groups are taking advantage of this system to join the otherwise very costly mainstream education in the US. The same system can be introduced through community colleges in India which can offer one-year or two-year Diploma courses with the provision of transfer of credits to agricultural and horticultural universities.

Similar views emerged in the recently concluded meeting of the Dean's Committee constituted by the ICAR at CSR Himachal Pradesh Agriculture University, Palampur, attended by the Vice-Chancellors and Deans of Agricultural Universities of the region. Dr Tej Partap, Vice-Chancellor, GB Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Uttarakhand and



BRIJENDER SINGH PANWAR

Chairman of the Committee, admitted that at present admissions in farm universities are not as per the needs and are unable to serve the purpose as many students who are passing out are not joining the farm sector. There is a need to frame guidelines to introduce the component of entrepreneurship in the curriculum. Dr Partap said that "fundamental changes had been proposed in the National Education Policy but the ICAR had left it to farm universities to restructure the course and curriculum. Efforts should be made to increase the component of practicals in undergraduate programmes and Postgraduate courses would also be restructured in a similar manner. Farm universities should structure one-year certificate courses leading to two-year diploma courses, he suggested. Dr HK Chaudhary, Vice-Chancellor of the host university, suggested widening the horizon of farm education by allowing freedom to choose subjects, multi-disciplinary approaches and introducing farm education at school level. CSK University, Palampur, had moved fast to adopt and implement key recommendations of the NEP by increasing the intake of various UG and PG programmes, digitisation, smart classrooms and use of sophisticated new age technology", he added.

The agriculture sector in India is passing through a sensitive and critical phase. The country has faced one of the longest farmers' agitations because farming has become uneconomical due to fragmentation of farm holdings and imbalance between the input and output ratio of farm economics. Consequently, the rural youth have lost interest in the profession of farming. Hence, an effective strategy needs to be worked out to revive the farm sector at the earliest.

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

INSTEAD OF SUPPORTING ME, THE ORGANISATION HAS EITHER TURNED ITS BACK ON ME OR IS PLAYING A NEGATIVE ROLE.  
—CONGRESS LEADER HARISH RAWAT



YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW! ALL THE BEST FOR YOUR FUTURE ENDEAVOURS (IF THERE ARE ANY),  
HARISH RAWAT JJ.  
—FORMER PUNJAB CHIEF MINISTER CAPT AMARINDER SINGH

# Galvanise the life-cycle approach to child nutrition

Little knowledge about healthy food choices, poor diet diversity and emphasis on fatty, sugary & salty foods have a dire impact on nutritional status



SEEMA PURI

The fifth round of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) data depicts a holistic picture of India's health status thereby giving us some reasons to celebrate and others to think. Data on India's nutritional status highlights the triple burden of malnutrition (undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, and obesity) faced by the country even before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. As required, the focus for the past year and a half was on the immediate threat of the virus followed by immunizing the population. India now enters a new phase wherein true resilient recovery can only take place if we pledge to focus on nutrition, especially of the young population collectively. The second phase of

(The writer is Associate Professor, Department of Food and Nutrition, Institute of Home Economics, University of Delhi. The views expressed are personal.)

NFHS-5 conducted in 2019-2021, shows that the percentage of children who are stunted, wasted and underweight has gone down only marginally. There is, however, a slight increase in the percentage of severely wasted and overweight children. Concomitantly, there has been a steep increase in anaemia among all age groups. The percentage of overweight or obese (BMI —25.0 kg/m2) women and men between ages 15-49 has also increased.

The Comprehensive National Nutrition Survey for 2016-2018 reveals that every second Indian adolescent suffers from some form of malnutrition. About a quarter of adolescents are thin for their age while five per cent are overweight (BMI-for-age >+1



SD). Under half of preschoolers, a fourth of school-age children, and close to a third of adolescents were anaemic.

An often-overlooked aspect of malnutrition is the lack of proper dietary habits. Lack of adequate knowledge and awareness about healthy food choices, poor diet diversity, and emphasis on high fat, sugar, salt (HFSS) foods have a dire impact on the nutritional status. The existing underlying nutritional challenges have been further exacerbated with the collateral impact of the fight

against COVID-19. With the disruption in food and nutrition services such as in Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and mid-day meal (MDM) and Weekly Iron Folic Acid Supplementation (WIFS) in schools, the malnutrition challenge has further been compounded. The prolonged closure of schools and extended online classes has not only impacted eating habits but also decreased the physical activity levels of children, increasing the susceptibility to obesity.

Micronutrient deficiency during early childhood can often transverse into adolescence which if not addressed can lead to long-term effects on health, cognition, education, and productivity. Hence, adolescence can be considered as

a second window of opportunity to improve the nutritional status of the individual. India is home to almost a fifth of the global adolescent (10-19 years) population. Nutritional requirements increase substantially and peak during this period with a 15-25 per cent increase in height, attainment of 40-60 per cent of peak bone mass, and up to 50 per cent of adult body weight — as well as blood loss due to the onset of menstruation among girls.

Adopting a lifecycle approach, by ensuring good nutrition to our children and adolescents will go a long way in ensuring the good health of future generations.

To strengthen the health of the future of the country, we need to ensure the optimal nutritional and health status of

our children and young people today. To understand the state of nutrition in different population segments and the target areas which need to be focused on for effective, immediate as well as sustained interventions, research in the form of a rapid assessment should be conducted.

Dietary factors are associated with increased risk of chronic diseases and undernutrition, national and international dietary guidelines recommend improving the diversity of diet to achieve a balanced diet. This requires that the macro and micronutrients requirement and sources, are understood and accessible by all, especially growing children and adolescents. By enabling and empowering the present and future generation through

the access and knowledge of a healthy diet and its sources, India enables subsequent economic and development goals as well.

Given the scale and size of India, in order to achieve this goal, all stakeholders must take conscious measures. Public-private partnerships across sectors can enable convergence of efforts toward common goals to address malnutrition and boost immunity. Food technology and logistics expertise of the private sector can be leveraged to strengthen and scale-up government initiatives like Poshan Abhiyaan and Anemia Mukh Bharat. Convergence of efforts would enable the maximization of impact while optimizing resources across nutritional outcomes for India.



# Pillar of Shame removed in Hong Kong



University students clean "Pillar of Shame" statue, a memorial for those killed in 1989 Tiananmen crackdown, at University of Hong Kong on June 4, 2019. A monument at a Hong Kong university that commemorated 1989 Tiananmen massacre was boarded up by workers late on Wednesday, prompting fears over the future of monument as city's authorities crackdown on dissent (AP Photo/Kin Cheung, File)

**AP ■ HONG KONG** The best-known public remembrance of the Tiananmen Square massacre on Chinese soil was removed early

Thursday, wiping out the city's last place of public commemoration of the bloody 1989 crackdown. For some at the University of Hong Kong, the move reflected the erosion of the relative freedoms they have enjoyed compared to mainland China.

The 8-meter (26-foot) -tall Pillar of Shame, which depicts 50 torn and twisted bodies piled on top of each other, was made by Danish sculptor Jens Galschiot to symbolize the lives lost during the military crackdown on pro-democracy protesters in Beijing's Tiananmen Square on June 4, 1989.

They are sending a signal to the students that it is over with the (Hong Kong) democracy movement and that it is over with free speech in Hong Kong," Galschiot said of the monument's removal. The university said it asked that the

sculpture, which had been standing on its campus for more than two decades, be put in storage because it could pose "legal risks." "No party has ever obtained any approval from the university to display the statue on campus, and the university has the right to take appropriate actions to handle it

at any time," it said in a statement after its removal. Each year on June 4, members of the now-defunct student union would wash the statue to commemorate the massacre. The city, together with Macao, were the only places on Chinese soil where commemorations of the crackdown were allowed.

## Why did Hong Kong remove Tiananmen memorial?

**AP ■ HONG KONG**

It happened in dead of night. Workers at University of Hong Kong put up barriers that largely blocked their activity from view and, over next several hours, took down towering "Pillar of Shame" and carted it away early Thursday in a container truck.

The 8-meter (26-foot) -tall sculpture, which was taken away in parts, remembered victims of China's 1989 crackdown on pro-democracy protests at Beijing's Tiananmen Square.

Its removal is testament to the ruling Communist Party's efforts to erase bloody events of that day from public consciousness. It also comes as party snuffs out democratic challenges in Hong Kong to its rule. Together they signal different future that lies ahead for city of 7.4 million people.

**WHAT IS THE "PILLAR OF SHAME"?**

There is more than one Pillar of Shame. It is a series of works by Danish sculptor Jens Galschiot, all same height and typically made of bronze, the copper and concrete. They

have been erected in Hong Kong, Mexico and Brazil, and are designed to remind people of events to ensure they don't happen again. The one in Hong Kong, which marks Tiananmen crackdown, depicts a mass of torn and twisted bodies in a tall pile. Galschiot has said bodies symbolize devaluation of individual, and sculpture expresses pain and despair of what happened. It was erected in Hong Kong in 1997 during an annual candlelight vigil to commemorate event.

The text at base of sculpture reads, "The old cannot kill young" in English and Chinese. Later, the Pillar of Shame was exhibited at several universities in city before being placed at University of Hong Kong on a long-term basis.

**WHY WAS THE SCULPTURE IMPORTANT?**

China's Communist Party has worked hard to scrub the June 4, 1989, Tiananmen crackdown from history on the mainland. Authorities don't allow any memorial and even whisk dissidents out of town so they can't organize any commemoration around the anniversary.

## No country can boost its way out of pandemic, says WHO director-general

**AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND**

The World Health Organization chief warned Wednesday that the rush in wealthy countries to roll out additional Covid vaccine doses was deepening the inequity in access to jabs that is prolonging the pandemic.

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus insisted that the priority must remain to get vaccines to vulnerable people everywhere rather than giving additional doses to the already vaccinated.

"No country can boost its way out of the pandemic," he told reporters. The UN health agency has long decried the glaring inequity in access to Covid vaccines.

Allowing Covid to spread unabated in some places dramatically increases the chance of new, more dangerous variants emerging, it argues.

"Blanket booster programmes are likely to prolong the pandemic, rather than ending it, by diverting supply to countries that already have high levels of vaccination coverage, giving the virus more opportunity to spread and mutate," WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told reporters.

Months ago, Tedros called in vain for a moratorium on booster doses to vaccinated, healthy people until at least 40 percent of people in all countries had received a first jab.

He pointed out Wednesday that while enough vaccines had been given to people globally this year to reach that target, distortions in global supply meant that only half the world's countries had done so. According to UN figures, about 67 percent of people in high-

## Madagascar's police chief swims to shore after helicopter crash

**AP ■ ANTANANARIVO, MADAGASCAR**

Madagascar's police minister and an air force mechanic succeeded in swimming for 12 hours to safety after their helicopter crashed in the Indian Ocean.

Gen. Serge Gellé, 57, the Secretary of State for Gendarmerie, was discovered in water by a fisherman in a canoe who brought him to shore, according to officials. Another passenger, Chief Warrant Officer Jimmy Laitara, also swam to the beach at Mahambo.

"My turn to die has not yet come, thank God. I'm well. I'm just cold," said Gelle in a video posted to Twitter by Madagascar's defense ministry. "But I'm sad because I don't know if my friends are alive."

Gelle appeared on a lounge chair, still in his military camouflage, his hands pale and wrinkled by the water and the cold. "There were four of us in aircraft. I was seated behind pilot," he said of Monday evening crash.

"Not having a life jacket, I unfasted the seat and used it as a buoy. I stayed calm and took off anything heavy I was carrying like my boots and belt. I did everything to stay alive," he said.

Gelle said he expected to be back at work in 24 hours and said that he lost his cell phone in the crash.

On Wednesday afternoon, rescue workers recovered the body of Col. Olivier Andrianambinina, director of security for the prime minister. The pilot remains missing.

**कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता**  
निर्माण शाखा, उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल निगम, ऊधमसिंह नगर  
कलकट्टा परिसर (गण्डी निदेशालय के सामने) रुद्रपुर, जिला- ऊधमसिंह नगर,  
पिन- 263153 फोन : 05944-250747  
पत्रांक 2671 निविदा विज्ञापन/2021 दिनांक- 23/12/20  
// अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना //  
अध्यक्ष, उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल निगम, देहरादून की अनुमति से जनपद  
ऊधमसिंह नगर के विकासखण्ड गदरपुर में राज्य आपदा प्रबन्धन अन्तर्गत  
15 बटालियन, एन०डी०आर०एफ० कैंपस (गदरपुर शुगर मिल कैंपस) में  
ओवरहेड टैंक, टयूबवेल, पम्प हाउस और राइजिंग मेन आदि एवं अन्य  
तत्संबंधी कार्य हेतु ई-निविदायें टू-बिड सिस्टम के अन्तर्गत उत्तराखण्ड  
सरकार के ई-पोर्टल में अमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा से संबंधित समस्त  
जानकारी एवं Key-Date दिनांक 23.12.2021 को अपराह्न 03.00 बजे  
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30<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021  
Last date of submission of hard copies of bids: Upto 17:00 hrs of  
30<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021  
Date of opening of bids on website : at 12.30 hrs of 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2021  
For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal  
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"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

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E-Tenders are invited from firms/contractors registered with  
UPLC Lucknow for the following jobs against which bids can be  
uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per  
schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of  
all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website :  
[www.noidaauthorityonline.com](http://www.noidaauthorityonline.com) & <http://etender.up.nic.in>.  
Please ensure to see these websites for any changes /  
amendments & corrigendum etc.  

S.No.	Job No.	Name of Work	Amount (Rs.)
1	33/DGM (NTC)/ SM (NTC)/ 2021-22	Improvement of 10 Nos. of Junctions Pedestrian X-ing Noida	68,12,648.55

  
Which can be uploaded by date 30.12.2021 upto 5.00 PM.  
Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date  
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**Dy. General Manager**  
**Noida Traffic Cell**  
**CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA**

**SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE**  
**ICICI Bank**  
Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No- 23, New Rohtak Road,  
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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.	M/s Bharat Trading Co/ Harjit Singh/ A/c No.112905500302	A-2/1, Lower Ground Floor (Back Side) Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110063/ December 21, 2021	August 21, 2021/ Rs. 30,61,490.93/-	New Delhi

  
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 24, 2021  
Place: Delhi/ NCR  
Authorized Officer  
ICICI Bank Limited

**UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY**  
General Public is hereby informed that  
one person Namely: Unknown, S/o:  
Unknown, Address: Unknown was  
admitted for treatment in Guru Teg  
Bahadur Hospital, Delhi where doctor  
declared him dead on **27.05.2020** in the  
area of P.S. GTB Enclave, Delhi. The  
body has been preserved for 72 Hours in  
Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital, Delhi. In this regard a case  
has been lodged vide **DD No. 17A dated 27.05.2020** at  
P.S. GTB Enclave, Delhi. The description of the dead  
person is as under:- **Age:** 35 years, **Sex:** Male, **Height:**  
5'6", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **Built:**  
Normal, **Wearing:** Yellow colour shirt with light green  
strip and blue colour jeans. If any one having any  
information about this dead person please inform  
undersigned.  
**SHO**  
**P.S. GTB Enclave, Delhi**  
**DP/661/SHD/2021 Ph: 011-225580947, 7065036031**

In The Court of Sh. Shirish Aggarwal:  
Administrative Civil  
Judge-cum-ARC(Central) Delhi-110054.  
SC.No.-120/2021 N.D.O.H. 15.01.2022  
Seema Verma & Anr. Vs. State & Anr.  
To,  
1. Seema Verma W/o Late Sh. Sandeep  
Verma  
2. Tanushka Verma D/o Late Sh.  
Sandeep Verma  
Both R/o, H.No. B-107, Type-II, Minto  
Road Complex,  
Minto Road, Central Delhi, Darya Ganj,  
Delhi-110002  
(Petitioner no.2 is minor being  
represented through her mother/natural  
guardian Smt. Seema Verma/Petitioner  
no.1)  
.....Petitioner  
**FOR SUCCESSION CERTIFICATE  
UNDER INDIAN SUCCESSION  
ACT-192**  
To,  
All Concerned  
Whereas in the above noted petition the  
applicant/petitioner has applied for  
Succession Certificate to the Hon'ble  
Court Under Section 372 of the Indian  
Succession Act, 1925 in respect of the  
debt and securities amount of Rs xxx. As  
per record to be standing in the name of  
Late Sh. Sandeep Verma deceased.  
Whereas the 15.01.2022 at 10' o clock in  
the forenoon has been fixed for hearing of  
the application notice is hereby given to  
this concerned.  
Given under my hand and the seal of the  
court on this 21.12.2021.  
(Shirish Aggarwal)  
ACJ/ARC (Central)

**SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED**  
General Public is hereby informed that one  
girl Namely: Nisha, D/o: Rajkumar, R/o:  
Jhuggi No. 97, Balaji Nursery, Opposite  
Yamuna Bank Metro Station, Yamuna  
Khadar, Shakarpur, Delhi has been  
missing/kidnapped since **11.07.2021** at  
02:00 am. from the area of P.S. Shakarpur,  
East Delhi. In this regard a case vide **FIR No.  
308/21 U/s 363 IPC dated 13.07.2021** has  
been registered at P.S. Shakarpur, East  
Delhi. The description of the missing/ kidnapped girl is as under:  
**Age:** 17 years, **Sex:** Female, **Height:** 4'6", **Face:** Round, **Built:**  
Thin, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Wearing:** Orange colour suit  
salwar and slipper in her feet. Sincere efforts have been made  
by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so  
far. Any person having any information or clue about this girl  
kindly inform to the following.  
**Website: http://cbi.nic.in**  
**E-mail Id - [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)**  
**Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641**  
**Fax No. 011-24368639**  
**DP/831/ED/2021**  
**SHO**  
**P.S. Shakarpur, Delhi**  
**Tel.No. 011-22011083, 8750870623**

**जल संसाधन विभाग**  
कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, सोन नहर प्रमण्डल, खगौल  
:- शुद्धि पत्र :-  
इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 1417 दिनांक 13.12.2021 के द्वारा निर्गत  
अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या- 01 SBD/ 2021-22 जो PR-  
010188(WRD) 2021-22 द्वारा दिनांक 06.12.2021 को विभिन्न दैनिक समाचार पत्रों में  
प्रकाशित हुआ है, में कुछ बिन्दुओं को निम्न प्रकार से संशोधित किया जाता है-  

क्र०	विवरण	पूर्व से निर्धारित तिथि	संशोधित तिथि
4	निविदा कामजात डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने की अवधि-	दिनांक 21.12.2021 के 10:00 बजे पूर्वाह्न से 27.12.2021 के 3:00 बजे अपराह्न तक।	दिनांक 05.01.2022 के 10:00 बजे पूर्वाह्न से 12.01.2022 के 3:00 बजे अपराह्न तक।
5	फ्री-बीड मीटिंग की तिथि एवं समय-	दिनांक 23.12.2021 को 3:00 बजे अपराह्न में।	दिनांक 10.01.2022 को 3:00 बजे अपराह्न में।
6	तकनीकी बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय-	दिनांक-29.12.2021 के अपराह्न 3:00 बजे।	दिनांक- 14.01.2022 के अपराह्न 3:00 बजे।
14 (ख)	अग्रधन की राशि (बैंक गारंटी)	दिनांक 28 , 12.2021 को 3:00 बजे अपराह्न तक।	दिनांक 13.01.2022 को 3:00 बजे अपराह्न तक।

  
तदनुषंग निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या- 01 SBD/ 2021-22 को इस हद तक  
संशोधित समझा जाय एवं निविदा से संबंधित शेष शर्तें यथावत् रहेंगी।  
कार्यपालक अभियंता,  
सोन नहर प्रमण्डल, खगौल  
मो०-7463889567  
PR-010542 (WRD) 2021-22  
नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।

## कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता, लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खण्ड, गरियाबंद छत्तीसगढ़ eegar-phe-cg@nic.in

निविदा निरस्तीकरण  
एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अन्तर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत  
एजेंसी/डेकेदारों से ऑनलाईन निविदा ग्राम रोबा नल  
जलप्रदाय योजना का रेड्रोफिटिंग कार्य हेतु इस कार्यालय का  
निविदा सूचना क्रमांक 155 /दिनांक 22.11.2021 सिस्टम टेण्डर  
नं. 87320, जी क्रमांक-G-65378/1/ दिनांक 26.11.2021  
आमंत्रित की गई थी। इस सिस्टम टेण्डर नं. में तकनीकी त्रुटि  
होने के कारण उक्त सिस्टम टेण्डर नं. को निरस्त किया जाता  
है। एवं शीघ्र ही पुनः रेड्रोफिटिंग कार्य हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदा  
आमंत्रित की जावेगी।

हस्ता / -  
कार्यपालन अभियंता  
लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खण्ड,  
गरियाबंद (छ.ग.)

R.o. No- 66126/7  
R.o. Date-23/12/2021

ऑन लाईन निविदा संशोधन सूचना क्रमांक - 01

जी क्रमांक - 65289, 65290

इस कार्यालय द्वारा ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित सूचना क्र० 80, 81, 83 दिनांक 16.11.2021 एवं, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95/वतोलो/का०अ/लो०अया०/कोण्डगांव/दिनांक 17.11.2021 में अपरिहार्य कारणों से निविदा के तिथियों में संशोधन किया जाता है। विवरण निम्नानुसार है:-

सं०क्र०	निविदा क्रमांक एवं दिनांक	सिस्टम क्रमांक	डाउनलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि
1	2	3	4

**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Home Affairs**  
**Department of Official Language**  
**NOTICE**  
The Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs circulates list of books in Hindi marked by qualitative excellence, with recommendation for their purchase by libraries of the Central Government Ministries/ Departments/ Organizations. Accordingly, list of books of a range of subject published in Hindi during the period from 01.01.2020 to 31.12.2020 and meeting the parameters of excellence is to be circulated by this Department. Books are invited from writers, publishers, printers, distributors and NRIs persons of Indian origin for the above-said purpose.  
Complete details in this regard are available at the department's website [www.raibhasha.gov.in](http://www.raibhasha.gov.in).  
The last date for submission of books is 23.01.2022  
Sd/-  
(Manjula Saxena)  
davp/19201/11/0005/21-22 Director(Patrika)



MARKETS RALLY

# Investors richer by over ₹8.58 lakh cr in 3 days

**New Delhi:** Investors' wealth has soared by ₹8,58,979.67 crore in three days of market rally, with domestic bourses climbing in tandem with global equities amid abating concerns over the economic impact of the Omicron variant.

The 30-share BSE benchmark Sensex jumped 384.72 points or 0.68 per cent to close at 57,315.28 on Thursday. During the day, it gained 559.96 points to 57,490.52.

In three days, the index has gained 1,493.27 points.

The market capitalisation of BSE-listed companies has rallied by ₹8,58,979.67 crore to stand at ₹2,61,16,560.72 crore.

"Domestic bourses continued to trade firm mirroring an upbeat mood in the global markets led by gains in realty, financials and IT stocks, while broader markets strengthened," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

PowerGrid was the biggest gainer among the Sensex constituents on Thursday, gaining 3.40 per cent, followed by ITC, Bajaj Finance, Infosys and NTPC.

"Markets inched further higher and ended in the green for the third successive session, tracking firm global markets. After the initial uptick, the benchmark remained range bound

till the end, however movement across sectors kept the participants busy," said Ajit Mishra, VP - Research, Religare Broking Ltd.

## Rupee strengthens for sixth day, up 28 paise to 75.26 per USD

**Mumbai:** Rising for the sixth straight session, the rupee climbed 28 paise to close at 75.26 against the US dollar on Thursday as abating concerns over the Omicron variant improved risk appetite globally. At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened at 75.43 against the greenback and witnessed an intra-day high of 75.22 and a low of 75.44.

On Wednesday, the rupee had appreciated by 5 paise to close at 75.54 against the US dollar. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against the basket of six currencies, rose 0.03 per cent to 96.10. Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, fell 0.20 per cent to USD 75.14 per barrel. Foreign institutional investors remained net sellers in the capital market on Wednesday, as they offloaded shares worth ₹827.26 crore, as per stock exchange data.

# Trai gives more time for written submissions on spectrum auction discussion paper

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Telecom regulator on Thursday extended till January 10 next year the timeline for submission of written comments on its recently-floated discussion paper related to spectrum auction across various bands, including 5G.

The deadline for written comments, which was earlier set for December 28, 2021, has been extended after requests from stakeholders for more time, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) said in a statement.

"TRAi had released a consultation paper on 'Auction of Spectrum in frequency bands identified for IMT/5G' on November 30, 2021," the regulator added.

The last date for receiving written comments on the issues raised in the consultation paper from the stakeholders was earlier fixed for December 28, 2021, and for counter comments, it was January 11, 2022.

"Keeping in view the requests of stakeholders for extension of time for submission of comments, it has been decided to extend the last date for submission of written comments and counter com-

ments up to 10 January 2022, and 24 January 2022, respectively," Trai said.

No further requests for extension will be considered, it asserted.

Last month, Trai had released a detailed consultation paper to discuss threadbare the modalities for auction of spectrum across multiple bands, including pricing, and other conditions -- preparing the groundwork for 5G auctions slated for next year.

Trai's comprehensive consultation paper touches upon crucial aspects like valuation and reserve price of spectrum, including 5G, quantum of the spectrum, block size, eligibility conditions for participation in the auction, roll-out obligations, and surrender of the spectrum.

Norms will also be worked out for new frequencies such as 526-698 MHz and millimetre band, that is 24.25 - 28.5, in addition to bands such as 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz, 2500 MHz, 3300-3670 MHz.

The telecom industry has repeatedly expressed concerns over high spectrum pricing and is hopeful of a rehaul in valuation methodologies.

# Institution of Engineers to demand implementation of 'Engineers Bills'

**New Delhi:** India's apex organisation of engineers the Institution of Engineers (India) will demand the implementation of the Engineers Bills, which has been hanging fire for about two decades. The issue would be the main agenda of the meeting during the 36th Indian Engineering Congress - Centenary Celebration being organized on December 26-28, in the national Capital. The Indian Engineering Congress will be inaugurated by Dr Mahendra Nath Pandey, Minister of Heavy Industries, and the Valedictory address will be delivered by Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

Addressing the media, Dr HR P Yadav, Director, HQ-Cell, Institution of Engineers (India) said that they have been pushing the Engineers Bill since 2000. "At present India has act for lawyers, doctors, architects, medical professionals, and others but not for engineers to regulate their activities. They don't have institutions like medical professionals have like Medical Council of India has to regulate them. If we have Engineers Act, the IEI can be given the mandate to regulate all engineers under its umbrella," he said.

Themed as "Engineers for Viable Technology and \$ 5 Trillion Economy", the 3-day event would witness participation of top-notch engineers from India and abroad and two union ministers. The congress also includes one technical meet of the World Federation of Engineering Organisation Committee on engineering for Communication and Information (WFEO-CIC), where participants from different countries are expected to take part.

Dr. Yadav said that in the year 2007, a draft engineers bill was submitted to the MHRD with the signature of the then power secretary RV Shahi who was given the responsibility of drafting the engineers bill.

"Then RN Rajpoot represented the IEI committee. Following this, AICTE was given the mandate by the MHRD, which constituted a drafting committee headed by Prof. Anand, director IIT Madras. It drafted a professional engineers bill in 2019 and it was submitted to MHRD for consideration and since then this has been lying with the Ministry and there is no progress," he added.

## Omicron worries may impact passenger vehicle supply: FADA

**New Delhi:** Automobile dealers' body FADA on Thursday said passenger vehicle supplies may get affected further, if chip making countries go under lockdown due to the spread of Omicron variant of Covid-19.

The industry body, however, noted that it expects the semiconductor shortage situation to normalise by the second half of next year.

"We see year 2022 as a neutral year as the rise of Omicron has once again created fear globally. This may further impact the supply in passenger vehicles if chip making countries go under lockdown or prioritise chip making for electronics used for work from home," Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) President Vinkeesh Gulati said in a statement.

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, DELHI WATER SUPPLY MAINTENANCE UNIT, UTTAR PRADESH JAL NIGAM (URBAN), R-1, RAJ NAGAR, NEAR HINT CHOURAHA, GHAZIABAD (U.P.) PIN 201002

**E-Tender Notice : 1412Nwda206 Dated: 21.12.2021**  
**Short Term E-Tender Notice**  
Online percentage rate short term e-tender for "Construction of RCC retaining wall and other allied work along the boundary wall of Muradnagar campus under 270 cusec Delhi Water Supply Maintenance Scheme" is hereby invited in two bid system on behalf of Chairman, U.P. Jal Nigam from the contractors having requisite work experience and financial capability. Tender document shall be available at e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in> latest by 27.12.2021. Interested contractors may view & download tender document and upload their bids, duly filled, online latest by 06.01.2022 upto 15:00 Hrs. Technical & Financial Evaluation cum Technical Bid (Pre-Qualification Bid) of E-tender shall be opened on 07.01.2022 at 16:30 Hrs.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

My client, Sh. Vikrant Sikka S/o Late Sh. RAVINDER SIKKA R/o H.No. 19 C, GALI NO.2, RAM NAGAR EXTN KRISHNA NAGAR, EAST DELHI-110051 is the Registered owner of property bearing address PLOT NO.117 D BLOCK KH.NO.210/2 SLF VED VIHAR VILLAGE SADULLABAD LONI GHAZIABAD vide Registered Power of attorney dated 24.09.2021 Doc. No. 8518 Sub Registrar-Loni Ghaaziabad. My client has received the said property from her Sister Smt. Prynaka Arya. Any person/bank/financial institution having any claim/right, lien any objection whatsoever in regard to above property, should notified to the undersigned/Adv. Vishal Mehan, E-713, Karkardoma Court, Delhi-110092 along with documentary evidence under address through registered A/D within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice failing which any claim, lien or objection shall be deemed to have been waived.

Vishal Mehan, Advocate  
E-713, Karkardoma Court, Delhi-110092

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to general public at large that my client Sh.Kailash Chand age 102 years S/o Late Mevalal R/o H. No. 1084, GaliMandirWali, PaharGanj, New Delhi, has debarred and disowned, his son namely Sh. UmeshNarain and his daughter in law namely Smt. Rani W/o Sh. UmeshNarain, both resident of Street No.13, Amarjeet Colony, Near SaiVidyaMandir, GurdwaraWaliGali, Rahoun Road, Ludhiana, Punjab-141007 from his all moveable & immovable properties, as his son & son's family through his granddaughter RaginiVerma, has been troubling/harassing him since long. Hence, any person dealing with aforesaid disowned persons will do so at their own risk & consequences and my clients shall not liable/responsible for their act. **KuldeepGola (Advocate)Ch. No.789-A, First Floor, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, New Delhi-110054**

## Sebi overhauls advisory committees on secondary markets, mutual funds, corporate bonds

**New Delhi:** Markets regulator Sebi has restructured its three advisory committees pertaining to the secondary market, mutual funds, and corporate bonds and securitisation.

Rejigging its secondary market committee, Sebi has listed Zerodha's co-founder and chief executive officer (CEO) Nithin Kamath among the new inductees in the 17-member panel, latest information on the regulator's website showed.

The advisory committee will now be chaired by Madhabi Puri Buch, ex-whole time member of Sebi. The panel was earlier headed

by IIM Ahmedabad professor and former whole-time member of Sebi, Jayanth R Varma.

Other members of the panel include Dhiraj Relli, MD and CEO of HDFC Securities; Kaku Nakhate, President and Country Head India at Bank of America; Naresh Yadav, MD and CEO of SBICAP Securities; and Leo Puri, Chairman, JP Morgan, South and Southeast Asia.

The panel advises the regulator on matters related to the secondary market, including suggesting steps to improve market safety, efficiency and transparency.



**Office of the Superintending Engineer**  
**2nd Circle, Public Works Department, Nainital-263002**  
Phone/Fax: 05942-235728/ 232030 Email: [sepwdntnl@rediffmail.com](mailto:sepwdntnl@rediffmail.com)

Letter No. 6055 /41 M-2/2020-21 Dated 22/12/2021  
**Short term National Competitive Bidding (E-Tendering)**

Superintending Engineer, 2nd Circle, Public Works Department Nainital on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites e-tender (two bid system) For further details please log on to <http://www.uktenders.gov.in> from 24.12.2021

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Earnest Money (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of Tender	Validity of Tender	Period of Completion	Contractor's Category of Registration
1	25 mm SDBC Surface dressing work form Km 10 to 21 of Ramnagar Bhandarpani- Amgari Bohrakot Okhaldunga-Talli Sethi Betalghat Ratuda-Bhujan-Visalkot - Jena-Richi Billek(S.H 71) Under Special Assistance to States for Capital Expenditure.	4.20	5000.00 + 18% GST	60Days	2 Month	Class A and above Class in any State Govt. 1 Central Govt. or any Govt. Undertaking in Road Works.
2	25 mm SDBC Surface dressing work form Km 15 to 21 of Ramnagar Ring Road (MDR) Under Special Assistance to States for Capital Expenditure.	4.20	5000.00 + 18% GST	60Days	2 Month	Class A and above Class in any State Govt. / Central Govt. or any Govt. Undertaking in Road Works.
3	25 mm SDBC Surface dressing work in Km 41 and Km 46 to 54 of Ranibag Bhimtal - Khutani- Padampur - Dhanachuli -Motiyapathar - Saharfatak - Mornaula Devidhura - Lahaghat - Pancheshwar Motor Road (SH 10) Under Special Assistance to States for Capital Expenditure.	3.80	5000.00 + 18% GST	60Days	2 Month	Class B and above Class in any State Govt. / Central Govt. or any Govt. Undertaking in Road Works.
4	25 mm SDBC Surface dressing work form Km 17 to 33 of Kathgodam Hairakhan Sanni Bend Simalya Bend Motor Road (SH 103 ) Under Special Assistance to States for Capital Expenditure.	6.00	5000.00 + 18% GST	60Days	2 Month	Class A and above Class in any State Govt. / Central Govt. or any Govt. Undertaking in Road Works.



**उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान, कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता, अनुरक्षण खण्ड**  
निकट विकास भवन लडाखी, उत्तरकाशी-249193, दूरभाष नं०- 01374222370 (फैक्स) ई-मेल: [eeuki-uj-s-uk@nic.in](mailto:eeuki-uj-s-uk@nic.in), [ujstarkashi@gmail.com](mailto:ujstarkashi@gmail.com)

पत्रांक : 1428 /ई-निविदा / 2021-22 ई-निविदा सूचना दिनांक : 22 / 12 / 2021

अनुरक्षण खण्ड उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान उत्तरकाशी द्वारा ई-निविदा (दू बिड सिस्टम) के अन्तर्गत निविदाये आमंत्रित की जाती है।

निविदा सं०	कार्य विवरण	घरोहर धनराशि रु०	निविदा प्रपत्र ज्ञापनलोट करने की तिथि एवं समय	ई-निविदा द्वारा प्रपत्र जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	Offline निविदा प्रपत्र जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	तकनीकी बिड खोले जाने की तिथि एवं समय	निविदा की वैधता	प्रि-बिड मीटिंग की तिथि एवं समय
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	विकास क्षेत्र चिन्त्यालीसौड में जल जीवन मिशन कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत इन्द्रा-रेपरी ग्राम समूह पश्चिम पेयजल योजना के अन्तर्गत राइजिंग मेन टैंक निर्माण, पम्प हाउस निर्माण, E&M कार्य एवं तत्सम्बन्धी कार्य।	As per Lt. No. 42/SPMG/ Namami Gange/ fund Demand Dt. 12-01-2021	24.12.2021 from 16:00 p.m	10.01.2022 upto 17:00 p.m	12.01.2022 upto 17:00 p.m	15.01.2022 at 11:00 a.m	90 Days	03.01.2022 at 11:00 a.m

ई-निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त जानकारीय व शर्त उत्तराखण्ड की वेबसाइट [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in) पर ऑन लाइन देखी / प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

“जल संवय-जीवन संवय” अधिशासी अभियन्ता

## SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

**ICICI Bank** 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.	Rishabh Tiwari/ Jyotsna Tiwari/ LBLUC00005137429	House No. ED/ 906, Sector- Q, Aliganj, Ward Jaishankar Prasad, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh/ December 18, 2021	September 27, 2021 Rs.11,91,183/-	Gurgaon
2.	Shashank Awasthi/ Shashi Awasthi/ LBLUC00004959619	Plot No. B 23 (DH-2), Khasra No.770 Minjuma, Madiyaon, Ward Jankipuram, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh/ December 18, 2021	July 06, 2021 Rs. 15,23,703/-	Delhi

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 24, 2021 Place: Delhi/ NCR (Gurgaon) Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**

**TENDER NOTICE**

S. N.	Name of work with its location	App. Cost of the work (In Rs.)	Address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased	Tender Document Fee (In Rs.)	Earnest Money to be deposited (In Rs.)	Date & Time for submission of tender & opening of tender	Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc.
1.	Comprehensive AMC of RDSO type GPS clocks at station over Delhi division for three years.	₹ 2392633.08 only.	Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer-c Northern Railway, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Annexe-1, DRM office, New Delhi-110055.	₹ Nil only.	₹ Nil only.	Tender Uploading/ Closing date & time 19.01.2022 15:00 hrs.	See the N.Rly. website <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> & Notice Board at S&T Branch, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Annexe-1, DRM office, State entry road, New Delhi-110055.

Tender No. 558-Sig/16/Tele/AMC/579/2021-22. Dated: 23.12.2021

3025/2021

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

## SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



**Rajni**  
Patel Nagar, Delhi. The description of missing/kidnapped female is as under : **Age** : 30 years, **Height** : 5'1", **Face** : Round, **Complexion** : Fair, **Built**: Medium, **Wearing** : Not known

If anyone having any clue/information, about the missing/kidnapped female kindly inform the following:-

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>  
e-mail : [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
Fax : 011-24368639  
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641  
DP/1150/CD/2021

## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male Namely Shiv Kumar S/o Sh. Chand, R/o 247, Rain Basera Nigam Bodh Ghat, Delhi **Age** : 48 years, **Height**: 5'7", **Complexion**: Shallow, **Face**: Long, **Built**: Thin, **Eye**: Black, **Hair**: Bald, **Beard**: Yes, **Wearing**: Bare feet, Was admitted in Sushruta Trauma Centre, Civil Lines, Delhi vide MLC No. 32128/2021 on dated 04.12.2021, during the treatment Doctors declared him dead on 07.12.2021. The dead body has been preserved in Subzi Mandi Mortuary for 72 hours. In this regard a **DD No. 101A dated 07.12.2021 U/s 174 Cr.PC** has been lodged at P.S. Kashmir Gate, Delhi.

If any one having any clue about deceased male may kindly inform the undersigned and contact on following numbers.

**SHO**  
**P.S. Kashmir Gate, Delhi**  
Ph.: 011-23953776, 23958234  
DP/1837/N/2021 Mob.: 8750870122

## SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General public is hereby informed that one boy namely **Dipanshu Kumar S/o** Sh. Jitender Kumar, R/o H.No. 2132, Gali No. 6, Ground Floor, Prem Nagar, Patel Nagar, Delhi, **Age**: 13 years, **Height**: 3'8", **Complexion**: Shallow, **Built**: Thin, wearing Sky Blue colour T-Shirt, Grey colour Pant and Grey colour

Sports Shoes in feet, has been missing/kidnapped since 12.12.2021 around 7:00 PM. In this regard a **FIR No. 754/21 u/s 363 IPC, dated 12.12.2021 has been registered at P.S. Patel Nagar, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the boy but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about him please inform undersigned.

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>  
E-mail : [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
Fax: 011-24368639  
Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 24368641  
DP/1141/CD/2021

**SHO**  
**P.S. Patel Nagar, Delhi**  
**Ph.: 011-25704034, 8750870434**

## Appeal for Identification



**Rajni**  
Patel Nagar, Delhi. The description of missing/kidnapped female is as under : **Age** : 30 years, **Height** : 5'1", **Face** : Round, **Complexion** : Fair, **Built**: Medium, **Wearing** : Not known

If anyone having any clue/information, about the missing/kidnapped female kindly inform the following:-

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>  
e-mail : [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
Fax : 011-24368639  
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641  
DP/1150/CD/2021

## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified male **Age** : Approx. 35 years, **Height** : 170cm, **Complexion** : Wheatish, **Build** : Normal, **Face** : Oval, wearing yellow dark colour shirt & black colour lower, was found dead on 09.12.2021 near Metro Choki No. 02, Sindhora Kalan, Sarai Rohilla, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 98-A dated 09.12.2021 u/s 174 Cr.P.C. has been lodged at P.S. Sarai Rohilla, Delhi. The deadbody has been preserved for identification for 72 hours in the mortuary of Sabzi Mandi, Delhi.

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

**SHO : P.S. Sarai Rohilla, Delhi**  
**Tel. No. 011-23691106, 8750870133**

DP/1842/N/21

## SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that one female namely **Pooja, W/o** Sandeep **R/o** Kardam Ka Makaan, Gali No. 12, Rajbir Colony, MV III, Delhi, **Age**: 24 years, **Height**: 5', **Complexion**: Wheatish, **Face**: Long, **Built**: Medium, wearing Red colour Suit, Yellow colour Pajama and Pink colour Chappal in feet, has been missing from her house along with her

son namely **Shiv, Age**: 2 years, **Height**: 2'2", **Complexion**: Fair, **Face**: Round, wearing Blue colour Jeans, White colour Shirt and Blue colour Shoes, since 28.11.2021 at 10:00 AM. In this regard a **DD No. 126A, dated 29.11.2021 has been registered at P.S. Gazipur, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the female and her son but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about them please inform undersigned.

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>  
E-mail : [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
Fax: 011-24368639  
Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 24368641  
DP/817/ED/2021

**SHO**  
**P.S. Gazipur, Delhi**  
**Ph. No.: 011-22610068, 22610094**







# Winter has come

SAMEER BAWA describes Ditas as a fine balance of luxury and simplicity in its gastronomic delights

Do you know what is better than an elaborate and lazy brunch under the winter sun? One with a view of Qutab Minar! Ditas located at the Chic Ambawatta One complex is an eclectic concept of an Al Fresco dining restaurant by the day and plush bar by night. The spacious restobar is built with stunning mirrored ceilings and has a really energetic and vibrant outdoor seating space surrounded by natural greenery and a spectacular view of the Qutub. Offering world cuisine, Ditas is the brainchild of founder Udit Khaitan and it radiates a fine balance of luxury and simplicity in its gastronomic delights.

I went in to try out the new winter menu a couple of days ago and we could not have chosen a better day. The sun was out in full glory and you could feel the Christmas vibe in the air. Before digging into the winter specials, we started with the roasted cherry tomatoes and holy basil soup served with herbed butter croutons. Soulful and comforting, it helped warm up the proceedings before we moved to the business end of the meal. While we were at it, a mystery *Cocktail Chandelier* was requested for the table. Basically, you had to select the spirit of choice, and the resident mixologist would whip up a mys-



tery cocktail using that spirit, stick that up in a contraption that looks like a chandelier that holds multiple glasses and serve it to your table with all the theatrics on point. We want the F&B offering at Ditas to touch all your senses and they should not just enjoy the taste of the food but equally love the presentation as well, says Udit.

For nibbles, we had savoury filo cups done with sun dried tomatoes, mushrooms, goat cheese, caramelised onions and

capers. Went really well with my gin cocktail. Also loved the sugarcane chicken skewers served with the Thai sweet chilli dip. The lamb hummus awarma that was served with toasted pita was expertly done and provided a good contrast to the first two preparations.

It was not time to move on to something more substantial! The Swiss two cheese fondue that came next was exactly that and much more. It was served with Rosemary baby potatoes, french

beans, mushrooms, roasted broccoli, croutons, grapes, apples, olives and lavaash. You could call it a miniature version of a grazing table and it really did hit the spot. Also, I think you would agree that with the pandemic looming in the background, any preparation that encourages community eating is so endearing. In addition to the fondue, we requested for the Baked Mac & Cheese parmesan crumble, a portion of peri peri grilled chicken and Wine braised lamb shanks. You can't go wrong



with Mac & Cheese or grilled chicken in winters but the object of my affection was the lamb shanks served on a bed of rosemary barley and kodo millet, leeks ratatouille and jus. Excellent meat preparation that would nourish both your body and soul.

To culminate the lovely afternoon, we shared an assortment of desserts and oh boy they really did save the best for the last! All the desserts that we tried *Baked Alaska bomb*, Ditas Signature *Hot chocolate fudge* and *Drop it like its hot* were intricate yet delicious and I promise you that anybody with a sweet tooth would find the dessert section difficult to resist. The founder Udit who comes with the pedigree of Le Cordon Bleu has personally conceptualised the dessert menu and She seems like one person who is always keen to innovate and take things to the next level. It was difficult to choose a favourite but if you put a gun to my head, I shall choose the Ditas signature deconstructed *Hot chocolate fudge* done with butterscotch ice cream, honeycomb, cocoa crumble and a secret sauce done in-house.

Overall, it was lovely afternoon with friends around good food and drinks. The staff at Ditas is well trained and took good care of our table. A dining experience which left us satiated and happy! Would I be back? Yes, for sure, especially for the desserts.

## Changes in F&B industry

AJIT SHAH discusses popular food and dining trends that peaked in the past year, including mindful eating and exploration of cross-cultural cuisines

It has been more than a year since India's first lockdown, and the pandemic has changed the way we live and, of course, the way we eat. In 2020, we saw restaurants close, then open, and then close again, and we saw culinary projects put on hold. But we also saw a lot of resilience and innovation despite the circumstances.

Evidently, Covid-19 pandemic has changed the whole flavour of the restaurant and food business since March, 2020. Restaurants are now operating very differently than they used to. Additionally, there has been a change in eating habits among people which has led to the emergence of a new set of food trends in 2021. These trends are set to dominate the industry and equip restaurants to stay ahead of the curve in the coming years. Below are a few food trends that have, in my experience, dominated the F&B industry in 2021.

### Mindful eating

With customers opting for more healthy, sustainable and immunity boosting foods, the year 2021 has seen a rise in popularity of such concepts hitting the restaurant space. Throughout the lockdown period, health was a major concern among all age groups to protect themselves against the pandemic. Moreover, a mindful diet is something Indians have been focussing on. There has been a transition in their eating habits from staple foods, such as coarse cereals, to vegetable and animal-based proteins which contain healthy fats, fibres and antioxidants. In my opinion, this trend is not going anywhere anytime soon.

### Veganism and vegetarianism

The influx of people joining the vegan lifestyle is on the rise, and the abundance of plant-based options on the market has made the switch easier than ever. Plant-based protein also made a statement last year and many restaurants now have a separate plant-based menu for vegans. Chefs have also become more creative with vegetables by studying seasonal availability as well as regions and cuisines around the world where vegetables are the primary ingredients.

Having said that, not everyone is ready or willing to make the switch to a total plant-based diet, which is why the trend of flexitarian eating is also on the rise. The concept of being a flexitarian is simple: Meat becomes a once-in-a-while or only-on-the-weekends food rather than part of your regular meal rotation.

### Comfort food

Comfort food has been in high demand since 2020. Whether due to nostalgia for better times or cost-cutting practices, people have increasingly turned to familiar favorites such as pizzas and burgers to ease their minds. Starchy dishes that warm the soul and nourish the body seem to resonate at a higher level.

### Local and seasonal ingredients

2020 brought imports and international travel to a screeching halt, thus making us rely on locally available options, especially for food. Therefore, if there was ever a time to go local, it is now. Imports of food items has been steadily declining over the past few



years and this year, our reliance on internationally produced fruits and vegetables has significantly reduced as restaurants nationwide are relying more on seasonal ingredients and basing their menus around the same.

### Buzz-less spirits

The non-alcoholic spirits category has also gained popularity in 2021. The sober-curious Gen Z-ers have been experimenting with this line-up of drinks that provides the taste and sophistication of cocktails and spirits, without the buzz.

### Local cuisines

Cuisines from lesser-known regions of the country have been popular through 2021. People have started seeing cultures more holistically through food and have become more excited by the wonderful flavours that each local cuisine offers.

### Cross-cultural cuisine

A huge food trend in 2021 has been cross-cultural cuisine. Fusion dining is not a new concept, but the time for creativity and innovation in food has definitely arrived. Fusions like Mexican-Korean, Chinese-Peruvian and more are delicious and exciting.

### Cloud kitchens

The growth of delivery and cloud kitchens, which started in 2020, has continued to remain popular through 2021. This is because cloud kitchens are better suited to the needs of socially distanced customers than traditional dine-in restaurants. It also helps restaurants to minimise some costs, such as rent and wait staff.

As 2021 comes to an end, I look forward to more innovative food trends in the coming year. While it may feel overwhelming to think about what comes next, we have already made it through one of the most turbulent years in modern human history. The F&B industry is bound to face its highs and lows, but the beauty of the industry lies in the fact that innovation can always push you through any obstacles. At the end of the day, all we, as industry leaders want, is for people to truly appreciate the joy of good food and the special moments that come with it. (The author is a partner at White Panda Hospitality.)

## MUNCHING UNDER THE MISTLETOE

KHUSHBU KIRTI receives boxes of happiness from Cafe Monique, comprising colourfully soft macaroons and a French cake, to commemorate the advent of the festive week

And in a mere blink of an eye, we've fast-forwarded to the end of yet another challenging year. But, I am glad we are nearing the end, and excited to welcome the new year with new resolutions and new opportunities. In the past year, my food palette has evidently expanded and I'm grateful to have trodden on this new path.

Christmas vibes are in the air and I feel merry. I received, to mark the week of the official festivities, a perfect food package from Cafe Monique.

The boxes of happiness were blue and white in colour, with blue ribbons waiting to be untied to reveal multitude macarons, called *Les Macarons de Paris*.

The founder of the online delivery



patisserie, Shivan, had advised me to refrigerate the food and take it out five minutes prior to serve, so I did exactly that. He mentioned that these were fresh

additions to their exclusive Christmas menu.

The different hues of macarons gelled together were soft as marshmallow, and melted in the mouth. The texture was smooth. Each one of the Christmas macarons was double-flavoured.

The dark chocolate macaroons were far ahead in the competition, taste-wise, a lil too sweet though. You could taste the sugar separately. The green ones tasted of pistachio. So, mixture of sweet and salty. They rendered a sort-of earthy flavour. The orange ones were softer still, breaks when you pick one up. The orange flavour was mixed with vanilla. Cream was filled up between the sides.

My favourites were the brown and

pink shaded macarons. The chocolate and bubblegum flavours blended well to produce a juicy and sweet after-taste.

*La Bûche de Noël — Myrtille & Marron*, or the *Yule log* happens to be a traditional French Christmas dessert which takes the shape of a piece of wood, thus, literally, a log. It was gel-like on the tongue, and had milk cookies attached on the sides. The *Yule log* was an amalgamation of punchiness of blueberry with the sweetness of chestnut. As Chef Maxime explained, these are two traditional fruits from the European hills. He explained the story of how in the middle age, during the longest night of winter, families would burn a yule log and it would keep them warm and untied together for a night.

## R E C I P E S

### CHRISTMAS PUDDING

#### WHAT YOU NEED

- Boiling water: 150 gm
- Rum: 170 gm
- Black currants: 240 gm
- Black raisins: 185 gm
- Sultanas: 85 gm
- Prunes: 150 gm
- Figs: 200 gm
- Brown sugar: 50 gm
- Red cherries: 150 gm
- Butter: 250 gm
- Brown sugar: 300 gm
- Chocolate 72 per cent: 100 gm
- Vanilla extract: 10 gm
- Chopped dates: 150 gm
- Flour: 320 gm
- Cocoa powder: 20 gm



- Eggs: 180 gm
- Baking powder: 2 gm
- Cinnamon powder: 2.5 gm
- Garam masala: 2.5 gm
- Cardamom powder: 3 gm

#### METHOD

- Combine the black currants, black raisins, Sultanas, prunes, figs, brown sugar and rum in a mixing bowl. Stir well to

mix, cover and leave for 24 hours to soak.

- After 24 hours, mix the flour, dates, cocoa powder, baking powder, butter, spices and eggs along with the soaked fruit mixture in a large mixing bowl.

- Grease pudding mould with butter. Pour the pudding mixture into the moulds.

- Bake in a double boiler at 140°C for 60 minutes.

- Once the pudding is cooked, remove from the pan and set aside to cool.

- Cover with cling wrap to keep it soft.

Courtesy: L'Opéra Culinary Head Amit Kumar

### SIGNATURE EGGNOG

#### WHAT YOU NEED

- Egg yolk: 6
- Sugar: 100 gm
- Milk: 500 ml
- Heavy cream: 250 ml
- Cinnamon: ½ bar spoon
- Nutmeg: 1½ bar spoon
- Clove: ¼ tsp
- Vanilla essence: ¼ tsp
- Whiskey: 360 ml

#### METHOD

- Mix cream, sugar and egg yolk.

- Add milk cream and spices in a pan and let



it simmer for a minute. Add this hot mixture into cream egg yolk slowly and mix vigorously to avoid curdle.

- Add vanilla essence and let it cool down to room temperature.

- Add bourbon & let it rest overnight.

- Serve chilled with grated nutmeg on top.

Courtesy: Rohit Pandey, F&B executive assistant manager, The Leela Bhartiya City Bengaluru

### CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS AT ROSEATE HOTELS & RESORTS

Luxe staycation | Christmas Carnival | Lavish festive buffets | December brings along festive cheer and joy. It truly is the best time



of the year, a time when family and friends come together to celebrate and create unforgettable memories. Enjoy the festive spirit of the season with us across Roseate Hotels & Resorts. Experience the good cheer of the season - elegant Christmas décor, a fun-filled Christmas Carnival, Chef's special festive cuisines and cocktails, Christmas brunch & dinners, heart-warming spa treatments, and unforgettable bliss. After all, Christmas is not just a season, it's a feeling!

**When:** December 24-26, 11 am-8 pm

**Where:** Roseate House, New Delhi

### CALORIES DON'T COUNT ON CHRISTMAS WITH IMPRESSIONS

There's a lot to enjoy about the holiday season, but one of the best parts of all the festivities is getting to show loved ones—both near and far—that you're thinking of them. And what better way to do that than with some glazed treats? Impressions introduces a batch of heavenly confections that run the gamut of irresistible and arresting flavors, textures, and



shapes.

The Christmas hamper by Impressions can be custom made with any number and type of the wholesome and delicious treats like strawberries dipped in choco-

late, chocolate barks, cakesicles, hot chocolate bombs, et al. These can be packaged in any of the hampers we offer from the acrylic box or in a tray alongside a floral bouquet or in a basket with a candle.

**Price** - Starting at ₹500

**Order via Instagram** - <https://instagram.com/impressionsmumbai?igshid=1ste4826jfx9d>

### CHRISTMAS WITH CORNITOS —A JOLLY TIME FOR SNACKING

Cornitos, this Christmas, has the yummiest selection of snacks that are not only perfect for your next gathering but are also the right fit for your gifting needs this holiday season.

Cornitos Cheese & Herbs Nachos have a unique combination of ched-

dar cheese and Italian herbs that gives them a unique flavour. These are gluten-free, cholesterol-free, made with corn oil, and non-GMO.

What are you waiting for? Let Cornitos take your holiday celebrations to the next level today! **Where:** <https://shop.cornitos.in/>

### CHRISTMAS PLUM CAKE

#### WHAT YOU NEED

- Cashewnut: 30 gm
- Himachali almonds: 30 gm
- Tutty fruity: 50 gm
- Dry ginger: 25 gm
- Local Himachali orange peel: 50 gm
- Raisins: 50 gm
- Blackcurrant: 50 gm
- Mace powder: ½ tsp
- Cinnamon powder: 1 tsp
- Black pepper: ½ tsp
- Cloves powder: ½ tsp
- Cardamom powder: 1 tsp
- Rum: 150 ml
- Orange juice: 100 ml
- Red wine: 90 ml
- Honey: 100 ml



#### For cake batter:

- All-purpose flour: 250 gm
- Butter: 200 gm
- Eggs: 4
- Soaked dry fruits: 350 gm
- Baking powder: 1 tsp
- Milk powder: 2 tsp
- Vanilla essence: 2 ml

#### METHOD

- Chop and soak the nuts — Cut all the dry fruits and peels in small pieces, and soak them along with the raisins

and tutti-fruity in the rum, red wine and orange juice (this is normally done 20-25 days in advance so that the dry fruits absorb all the spirits).

- Prepare the batter — Mix the butter and sugar along and beat the vanilla essence in it. Add in the eggs gradually to the vanilla essence mixture and mixing all the while. Then fold in the flour sifted with baking powder and mix in all the soaked ingredients.

- Prepare a baking tin — Grease a one kg baking tin with butter and sprinkle a little flour on the surface. Then place a sheet of butter paper on the bottom, and pour the cake batter into the tin. Bake the cake at 160°C for about 20-25 minutes. Take out the cake from the mould and leave aside to cool it down and do the dusting of icing sugar.

Courtesy: Rajnish Malkoti, executive chef, Welcomhotel Shimla

### WELCOME TO SANA-DI-GE Delhi X'MAS PARTY

The party season is on, and the Christmas vibes are all over us at Sana-Di-Ge Delhi. At Sana Di Ge Delhi, we believe in pandering to the gastronomical connoisseur inside each one of us by serving the most authentic coastal cuisine you can get in Delhi NCR.

To make things easier for you, here's our curated menu from our celebrated Chef Suresh. Enjoy a perfect assortment of south Indian delicacies in non-vegetarian set menu which includes Prawn Chilli Fry (prawns marinated with Mangalorean spices), Fish Rawa Fry, Chicken Ghee Roast, Denji Rasa, Prawn Sukka, Anjal Curry (Seer fish simmered in Mangalorean spices with coconut milk), Gosht Nalli Rogan Josh, assorted breads, coconut rice, Eleanore Payasam, Gajar Ka Halwa. The vegetarians need not despair as the set menu has very tempting Paneer Ghee Roast, Lotus Stem Kalimirchi, Baby Corn Butter Pepper Garlic, Drumstick Rasa,

Mushroom Sukka, Phalguni Sazi, (fresh green vegetables cooked with spices & cream), Assorted Breads, Dal Makhani, Subzi Biryani, Eleanore Payasam, Gajar Ka Halwa. A complimentary Rum plum cake is additional on all tables on the Christmas Eve and for that Christmas special brunch.

Live music is available alongwith remarkable food on properly set table for families and guests on the 24th Eve and on 25th lunch and dinner. Come relish our exquisitely set menu, glasses of mulled wine, frolic and rhythm of music and a great evening with friends.

**When:** December 24 - Dinner only

December 25 - Lunch and Dinner  
**Where:** 22/48, Commercial Centre Malcha Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi

**Price:** Vegetarian set menu - ₹1,899 + taxes  
Non vegetarian set menu - ₹2,499 + taxes

### L'OPERA GIFTING HAMPERS FOR CHRISTMAS

L'Opéra is excited to welcome the Magical Season by indulging in the Christmas spirit at its outlets, across Delhi NCR and Dehradun, decorated for the occasion and offering an impressive array of seasonal festive products. L'Opéra is bringing back its classic selection of products encompassing Bûches (Yule log), Chocolates, Panettone, Christmas Pudding, Biscuits, Plum Cake, Alpine Nut Cake, Galette des Rois and other festive specialties. "Christmas and New-Year celebrations are also an occasion for us to remember those in the society who are less fortunate and to show our solidarity by supporting them" says, Kazem Samandari, Laurent's father and Executive Chairman of L'Opéra. L'Opéra's festive delicacies will be available in all its outlets and online from late November onwards. They are available for take-away and in-store consumption as well as for online orders.

**Price:** ₹150 onwards  
L'Opéra Christmas products can be ordered by phone at +918800097255 or online at <https://loperaindia.com/shop/>.





# Indian batting line-up good enough to tackle South African pacers: Pujara

PTI ■ CENTURION

Middle-order batter Cheteshwar Pujara says the current India batting line-up is experienced enough to tackle lateral movement on pace-friendly tracks in South Africa and he has no doubt that the team led by Virat Kohli will deliver in the Rainbow nation.

Pujara said the recent overseas success has made India a confident unit and that will reflect in the three-Test series, beginning Sunday.

“When you are a visiting team, you know that there is pace and bounce and there is lateral movement and to face the fast bowlers is always a big challenge when you go out of India,” Pujara said in a video posted by BCCI on its twitter handle.



“This team has learnt that and this is a much more balanced batting line-up and I think we will be

able to tackle that and with our preparation I am very confident we will put up a good show.”

Pujara also felt that the experience of having played in South Africa will also stand them in good stead.

“...Most of the (Indian) players have played in South Africa in the past, it is an experienced side and it terms of preparation, we know what is expected from us.

“Most of the teams play well in their home conditions and it's the same with the South African team. They have one of the best bowling line-ups and facing one of the best fast bowlers has always been challenging,” said the 33-year-old from Rajkot.

India had retained the Border-Gavaskar trophy after beating Australia 2-1 in the four-match series early in the year.

Virat Kohli's men also claimed a 2-1 victory in the five-Test rubber in England before the fifth

Test was cancelled due to COVID-19.

“Having done well in England and Australia will make a big difference in this squad's confidence and self belief that we can win overseas, we can win in any conditions,” Pujara said.

“And with our bowling and batting line-up, I am very confident that we have the capacity to win a series in South Africa.”

Pujara has lacked consistency since 2020 with his last century coming in January 2019 in Australia. In the last 10 innings, he has scored two fifties but couldn't convert them to big scores.

The Indian batting mainstay said he has better clarity now about how to go about things, having played in these conditions here before.

## India thrash UAE in opener

PTI ■ DUBAI

Harnoor Singh struck a fine hundred before the Indian bowlers ran through the opposition to complete a 154-run rout of UAE in their opening U-19 Asia Cup match here on Thursday.

Put in to bat, India put up 282 for five, courtesy Harnoor's 120 off 130 balls and skipper Yash Dhull's 63 off 68 balls. Rajvardhan Hangargekar's unbeaten 48 off 23 balls provided the final flourish.

UAE used as many as nine bowling options at the ICC Academy Ground but the move did not help their cause.

The home team's batters came a cropper against the Indian bowling line up, folding up for 128 in 34.3 overs.

Hangargekar took three wickets for India while Garv Sangwan, Vicky Oswal and Kaushal Tamble took two each.

India next play arch-rivals Pakistan on Saturday.

In the other matches played on Thursday, Pakistan beat Afghanistan by four wickets and Sri Lanka hammered Kuwait by 274 runs.

The tournament is being played ahead of the U-19 World Cup in the West Indies next month.



## If possible, I would play for KKR forever: Gill

PTI ■ KOLKATA

The talented Shubman Gill said that given a choice he would like to play for Kolkata Knight Riders forever.

Gill, who is currently nursing a shin injury which is keeping him out of South Africa tour, was released by the KKR management, who retained Andre Russell, Sunil Narine, Venkatesh Iyer and Varu Chakravarthy.

Once seen as KKR's future captain, the 22-year-old Indian opener was among the likes of Eoin Morgan, Dinesh Karthiik, Rahul Tripathi and Nitish Rana to be released.

“The kind of bond I have with the KKR franchise is something really special to me,” Gill said in a short-film titled ‘Love, Faith and Beyond’. “Once you're associated with a franchise you would want to carry on and play with them forever... And if I would be able to play in purple and gold, I would play forever,” he added.

Bought for Rs 1.8 crore ahead of IPL 2018, a 18-year-old Gill rose to prominence with KKR in the very first season where scored 203 runs in 13 matches at a strike-rate of 146.04.

But later on he drew flak for his poor conversion rate while his strike-rate too came down as overall he has so far played 58 matches for the franchise, scoring 1417 runs at a strike rate of 123.00.

“Not every year you can have all the best teammates or all the best players or all your best friends in one team. Instead of cribbing about the fact that we don't have them we should cherish the time that we had with them,” Gill added.

The 11-minute short-film is a KKR's tribute to some of the best and the brightest players who were a part of the franchise.

“Ideally, there are so many players you want to retain but it just does not work that way,” MD & CEO, KKR Venky Mysore said.

## In-form Saurashtra face uphill task against TN, Himachal hold edge over Services

PTI ■ JAIPUR

Saurashtra run into an equally dominant Tamil Nadu, while Himachal Pradesh would have slight upper hand against Services when they face-off in the semifinals of the Vijay Hazare Trophy here on Friday.

Both Saurashtra and TN made it to the last four in convincing fashion. While the southern outfit thrashed arch-rivals Karnataka by 151 runs, Saurashtra slayed Vidarbha by seven wickets.

Services, on the other hand, decimated Kerala to make it to the last four of the national ODI championship for the first time ever, while Rishi Dhawan-led Himachal notched up a five-wicket win over Uttar Pradesh the other day.

For Saurashtra, their biggest asset is the form of the middle-order comprising the experienced Sheldon Jackson, Prerak Mankad and Arpit Vasavada.

The trio can take any good attack apart on their day, including Tamil Nadu's strong and varied one.

Mankad (339 runs) would take a lot of confidence from his unbeaten match-winning 77 in the quarter-final and would be keen to continue in the same vein.



The 35-year-old Jackson, who has 2,212 ‘List A’ runs, holds the key and his performance could eventually be the difference between the two sides.

However, Saurashtra openers Vishwaraj

Jadeja and young Harvik Desai, would need to get runs under their belt and would be eyeing for a big knock in the crunch game.

Samarth Vyas and Chiraj Jani would also need to play their parts as Saurashtra are unlikely to change a winning combination.

## Suspended NDTL gets back WADA recognition: Sports Minister Anurag Thakur reveals

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Sports Minister Anurag Thakur on Thursday said that the World Anti-Doping Agency has restored the accreditation of the National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL), which was suspended in 2019 because of its failure to meet global standards.

The NDTL is based in the national capital. “National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL) regains the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) accreditation,” Thakur posted on his official Twitter page.

“Restoration of accreditation is a boost to India's efforts to achieve the highest global standards of excellence in sport.



This is the result of untiring efforts by GOI (Government of India),” he added.

India is currently third in the WADA's global list of dope violators led by Russia.

## CABl pick 14-member Indian blind team for home series against B'desh

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABl) has selected a 14-member squad for the three-match ODI and T20 series against Bangladesh starting on Friday at Bhopal.

The captain of both squads is Sunil Ramesh from Karnataka while Deepak Malik from Haryana will be his deputy.

The bilateral series, to end on December 29, will be played at Bhopal's Faith Cricket Club.

The series will start with T20 matches to be played on December 24, 25 and 26 fol-

lowed by three ODIs on December 27, 28 and 29, CABl president Dr Mahantesh G Kivadasannavar said in a release.

**Teams:**

India's squad for 3 T20s:

B1 category: Kalpesh Nimbadkar (Gujarat), Lalit Meena (Rajasthan), A Venkateswara Rao (Andhra Pradesh), Om Prakash (Madhya Pradesh), Praveen Kumar Sharma (Haryana).

B2 category:

D Venkateswara Rao (Andhra Pradesh), A Maneesh (Kerala), Irfan Diwan (Delhi), Nakul Badanayaka (Odisha).

## Indian men to finish 2021 in third spot, women drop to ninth



PTI ■ LAUSANNE

Olympic bronze winning Indian men's hockey team will end the year in third spot, its highest-ever, as per the International Hockey Federation (FIH) rankings released on Thursday.

The Manpreet Singh-led Indian team won the bronze in Tokyo Games earlier this year to end a 41-year medal wait for the country. India, who finished third in the just-con-

cluded Asian Champions Trophy in Dhaka, will end the year with 2296.038 points behind Olympic champions Belgium and toppers Australia. Australia have leapfrogged Belgium in the latest chart following the Red Lions' recent FIH Hockey Pro League draw and defeat at the hands of the Netherlands.

Australia will close the year with 2642.25 points, just 10 points ahead of FIH Hockey Pro League and Olympic champions Belgium, who have 2632.12.

The Asian Champions Trophy saw various exchanges of ranking points between the competing teams, although there was little in terms of movement. Champions South Korea remain 16th with runners up Japan still in 17th position.

Fourth placed finishers Pakistan continue to hold onto 18th place, while fifth placed Bangladesh have dropped two places to 40.

## Srikanth-Loh Kean Yew face-off on cards; Sindhu, Sen get easy draws at India Open

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Comeback man Kidambi

Srikanth might clash with Singapore's Loh Kean Yew in a rematch of their World Championships final after being drawn in the same half, while PV Sindhu and Lakshya Sen received easy draws in the Yonex-Sunrise India Open 2022 to be held from January 11 to 16.

Top seed Srikanth, who regained his place in world's top-10, will open his campaign against compatriot Siril Verma and is likely to get another chance to avenge his loss against World champion Loh Kean Yew as they are drawn to clash in the semifinals.

Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu, seeded top, will hope to lay claim on her first title of the

new year when she begins her campaign against compatriot Sri Krishna Priya Kudaravalli.

The 26-year-old could face Russian fifth seed Evgeniya Kosetskaya in the last-8 stage.

Fans would be hoping for the marquee all-India summit clash between Sindhu and the former World No. 1 Saina Nehwal, who has also received a relatively tough draw.

The London Olympics bronze medallist and fourth seed Nehwal, who endured a tough year plagued with multiple injuries, is likely to square off against seventh seed Iris Wang of USA in the quarter-finals and second seed Busanan Ongbamrunphan in the semifinals. Organised by the Badminton Association of India (BAI), the USD 400,000 Super 500



event will kickstart the 2022 BWF World Tour season.

In-form Sen, who claimed a maiden bronze at the World Championships, will start his campaign against Adham Elgamal of Egypt and could face compatri-

ot and World Championships quarter-finalist HS Prannoy in the quarterfinals.

Prannoy, who is making a comeback after battling post COVID after-affects, is set to kickstart his challenge against

Spaniard Pablo Abian.

Second seed B Sai Praneeth, who also had a tough 2021, would also be looking to start the year on a high as he opens against Spain's Luis Penalver in the opening round. He could face Indonesia's Tommy Sugiarto in the quarter-finals.

Sixth seed Sameer Verma, who had suffered a calf muscle injury in Denmark, will also look to go deep into the draw after starting his campaign against his elder brother Sourabh.

India's top men's pairing of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy, seeded second, will open against compatriot Ravi and Chirag Arora and are likely to meet fourth seeded pair of Ben Lane and Sean Vendy from England in the Last-4 stage.

# Benzema brace as Madrid beats Bilbao 2-1 in virus-hit game

AP ■ BARCELONA

Karim Benzema struck two quick goals to lead Real Madrid to a 2-1 win at Athletic Bilbao in a Spanish league game missing several players because of coronavirus infections.

Defending champion Atlético Madrid slumped to a fourth consecutive league defeat after losing 2-1 at Granada, extending its worst run in the competition since Diego Simeone took charge a decade ago.

A total of 12 players between Madrid and Bilbao missed the game after testing positive for COVID-19. That included Madrid midfielder Luka Modric and Bilbao's Unai Simón, the goalkeeper for Spain's national side.

Benzema started the scoring for the league leaders with a superb strike four minutes into the match at San Mamés. He struck again in the seventh for his league-leading 15th goal of the season.

Oihán Sancet hit right back for the hosts to close out a wild first 10 minutes of the game.

Iñaki Williams went close to grabbing an equalizer with a half-hour to play, but a defense anchored by Eder Militão held on to increase Madrid's lead to eight points over second-place Sevilla.

The outbreak on Madrid's squad gave Eden Hazard, Eduardo Camavinga, and Nacho Fernández the opportunity to earn rare starts.

“I want to highlight the players who hadn't played much were ready

to go, that is the strength of a team that wants to compete,” said coach Carlo Ancelotti, whose side enters the winter break on a 15-game unbeaten streak in all competitions.

“Now to rest and get back those players who weren't with us today... I think that we can have them all back after the holidays.”

The game came hours after the Spanish league strengthened its testing protocols to try to prevent teams being hit by outbreaks.

In addition to Modric, Madrid was without David Alaba, Isco Alarcón, Marco Asensio, Rodrygo, Gareth Bale, Marcelo and backup goalkeeper Andriy Lunin. Besides Simón, Bilbao was without Iñigo Martínez, Jokin Ezkieta and Alex



Berenguer.

Benzema dazzled with his opening goal from the side of the area.

The France striker unnerved Bilbao when he used one touch to send a pass from Toni Kroos curling into the far corner of the net.

“What a striker, what a captain, what a player,” Ancelotti said.

Benzema's second came after a poor touch by Bilbao defender Unai Nuñez gifted him the ball with only Simón's replacement, Julien Agirretxabala, to beat.

“I like this type of soccer in a great stadium like this, it makes me happy, but it makes me even happier to beat this good team,” said Benzema, who was applauded by the Bilbao crowd when substituted late. Sancet struck from the edge of

the area to send the ball in off the post.

“We had our chance to tie the match,” Bilbao coach Marcelino García said. “I am proud of how we played against a great league leader.”

ANOTHER LOSS Atlético had not lost more than two league games in a row since

Someone became its coach in December 2011. This month it has lost to Mallorca, Real Madrid and Sevilla before its defeat in Granada.

Atlético started well with a goal from João Félix only three minutes after kickoff.

Darwin Machís then leveled in the 18th and Jorge Molina scored from a cross by Granada striker Luis Suárez to complete the comeback in the 61st.