

**OPINION 8**  
PROPAGANDA AROUND  
CHINA'S 'INFALLIBILITY'**WORLD 11**  
UAE BECOMES 1ST COUNTRY TO  
TRANSITION TO 4.5 DAY WORK WEEK**AVEUNES 12**  
BREAKING HEALTHCARE  
BARRIERS

LUCKNOW, WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8, 2021; PAGES 14 ₹3



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# Lal topiwalas like red alert for UP: Modi

**PM inaugurates 3  
mega projects in  
Yogi's home turf  
in Gorakhpur**

PTI ■ GORAKHPUR

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday equated the red caps worn by Samajwadi Party workers with red beacons that suggest a hunger for power, sounding a red alert against them in the state which chooses its next government early next year.

SP leader Akhilesh Yadav reacted quickly, tweeting that the red caps are a red alert for the BJP as they will oust the party from power.

Modi's attack on the opposition party came at Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's home turf Gorakhpur, where he inaugurated a mega fertiliser plant and an All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), together worth nearly Rs 10,000 crore.

The PM also recalled fertiliser shortages in the past and slammed the previous state governments over delays in payment to farmers by sugar mills.

"Today, the entire UP knows very well that those wearing the red caps are concerned about the red beacon ('laal batti') and not bothered about your pain and sorrows,"



he said, apparently referring to the beacon atop cars carrying VIPs.

"The red-cap people want power to commit scams, fill their coffers, indulge in illegal grabbing (of resources) and give complete freedom to the mafia," he said.

"The red-cap people want to form the government to show favour to terrorists and to free them from jail. Hence, you should remember that those wearing red caps are a red alert for UP, in other words alarm bells."

He claimed that the previous governments had brought

a bad name to UP by patronising criminals.

But today the mafia is in jail, and the investors are investing in the state with an open heart, he said at the rally, flagging benefits of a double-engine government with the same party in power at the Centre and in the state.

Reacting to Modi's jibe, SP president Akhilesh Yadav said the red caps are a red alert for the BJP. In a tweet, he also listed price rise, unemployment and the Lakhimpur Khairi violence involving farmers among the other red alerts for the ruling party.

The PM's rally in eastern Uttar Pradesh on Tuesday took place on a day when the SP and the Rashtriya Lok Dal addressed their first joint public meeting in western UP's Meerut.

Modi praised the Adityanath government for doing unprecedented work for sugarcane growers.

He said sugarcane farmers have been paid more as their dues in the past four and a half years than the amount given during the terms of governments in 10 years before this.

He said the minimum support price for sugarcane has

increased to Rs 350 per quintal in the state in recent years.

The state's sugarcane farmers had a tough time in getting their dues from sugar mills earlier and the process took months, he claimed.

"There were different types of games played and scams committed related to sugar mills. People of Purvanchal and UP know this very well," he said.

Modi said the country which was till 2014 known for importing urea, and the shortage of fertilisers used to make headlines, is witnessing an

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## Modi hai to mumkin hai, says Adityanath

**'It is like a dream come true for people in eastern UP'**

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Thanking Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the launch of developmental projects across the state, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said "Modi hai to mumkin hai" and what Gorakhpur is today is only because of Modi ji.

Yogi was in his home turf Gorakhpur to attend the inaugural ceremony of three mega projects worth ₹ 10,000 crore on Tuesday. The projects include a fertiliser factory, the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and a hi-tech laboratory of Indian Council of Medical Research-Central Medical Research Centre (ICMR-RMRC).

"In 2016, the prime minister had laid the foundation stone of this fertiliser factory in Gorakhpur, which has become functional today. Today's inauguration (of the fertiliser factory) is like a dream come true for the people in eastern Uttar Pradesh which was impossible during the regimes of other parties. Five governments were formed in the state in the last 30

years, but only the Bharatiya Janata Party regime had the courage to start this fertiliser factory in Gorakhpur," he said.

The chief minister maintained that the Gorakhpur fertiliser factory was shut down in 1990 and for the next 24 years, no government showed interest in reviving it. "In 2016, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the fertiliser plant at Gorakhpur, which will be four times bigger than the earlier plant which was shut down in 1991," he said.

Referring to the declining rate in cases of Japanese Encephalitis and other vector-borne diseases in the region, Yogi said that Gorakhpur was fighting medical issues for the last 40 years and thousands had died because of the negligence of the previous state and Central governments.

"There were deaths due to encephalitis, malaria among others. In 2016, the prime minister laid the foundation stone of this AIIMS which has also been inaugurated on Tuesday," he said.

The chief minister fur-

ther said, "A chain of medical colleges is getting ready in Uttar Pradesh. At present, there are medical colleges in 59 districts of the state and the process of setting up medical colleges in other districts is also underway. The health infrastructure has been improved considerably."

Lashing out at the previous regimes in the state for neglecting public health, Yogi said that for the last several decades, thousands of deaths occurred every year due to various diseases in eastern UP, but the previous governments did not care about the people's health.

"Everyone was left to their own fate. The facilities of AIIMS will be a boon for the people of eastern UP," he said. Speaking on the high vaccination coverage in Uttar Pradesh, the chief minister said that the world's largest vaccination campaign was being run under the able guidance of the prime minister and UP had reached the milestone of administering 17 crore vaccine doses on Tuesday.

## CAPSULE

**DJ, WRESTLER HELD FOR ARMS TRAFFICKING**

**New Delhi:** A disc jockey and a wrestler were among three men who were arrested on charges of supplying illegal arms to criminals, and 27 semi-automatic pistols were seized from their possession. Yogesh Patel, alias Nilesh (22), Pankaj Kumar Bhardwaj (20) and Jitendra, alias Jittu, were arrested in two operations by the Special Cell unit, they said.

**SERVICES AT DELHI'S 3 CENTRE-RUN HOSPITALS HIT**

**New Delhi:** Patient care at Delhi's Centre-run Ram Manohar Lohia, Safdarjung and Lady Hardinge hospitals were hit as resident doctors boycotted all routine and emergency services for the second consecutive day on Tuesday as part of a nationwide protest over the delay in NEET-PG 2021 counselling.

**UP: 3 KIDS BURNT TO DEATH DURING SLEEP**

**Mirzapur:** Two sisters and a brother, aged three to seven-years, were burnt to death at Pachokhara Khurd village in Madhyan area of the district here, police said. The children were sleeping on a pile of straw in the barn on Monday evening when it caught fire, police said.

# Farmers to take final call today on ending protest

Most kisan leaders satisfied with Govt response, but seek clarity on issues

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The agitating farmers' groups will meet on Wednesday to take a final call whether to end their protests after they reportedly received a positive response from the Government on meeting their demands.

In a meeting held at Singhu border on Tuesday, farmer leaders expressed their satisfaction over the Centre's move to resolve the standoff, but some wanted more clarity on the issues raised by them and sought clarification from the Government.

After the meeting, farmers' leader Balbir Singh Rajewal said they will hold another



Samyukta Kisan Morcha leaders address a Press conference after their meeting to decide their future course of action in New Delhi on Tuesday PTI

meeting at 2 pm on Wednesday. He said several farmers have sought certain clarifications, including on the precondition set for withdrawal of "fake" cases against farmers.

"The Government sent a proposal, it was discussed and presented before all members under the aegis of the Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM) and sent it to the Government with our reservations", Rajewal said.

Farmer leaders added that there is a general consensus among the SKM leaders on the written assurance they have received from the Government. "The Morcha will seek further clarifications on a few points of the Government's proposal, and will reconvene at 2 pm on Wednesday for further discussion. The Morcha hopes for a positive response from the Government," said the SKM in a statement.

Last week Union Home Minister Amit Shah spoke to two farmer leaders (via a phone call) to discuss outstanding issues; this was after their protests forced the recall of the farm laws.

The Centre has conveyed to farmer unions that the proposed committee on the minimum support price (MSP) will have representations from the SKM, Government officials, and representatives of States. Besides, the Government has agreed to drop all police cases against farmers — this includes stubble burning complaints and cases filed by Haryana and Uttar Pradesh Police after withdrawal of protests.

On the Government proposal to set up a committee on MSP, Rajewal said that farmers had objections to it. "We do not want other committees. We have demanded the Government give a clarification

Continued on Page 11

## SP, RLD stitch alliance for UP

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav and Jayant Chowdhary of the Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) formally announced their alliance for Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections 2022 at a joint rally in Meerut district on Tuesday.

Akhilesh and Jayant arrived for the rally, dubbed "Pariwartin Sandesh" in the Dabautha area of Meerut district, in the same helicopter.

Addressing the gathering, Akhilesh said if the alliance comes to power after next year elections, the first work will be to build a memorial for "martyrs" of the farmers' protest. He attacked the ruling BJP saying the "2022 election will see the eclipse of the BJP from western UP, as the ruling party has practiced the politics of lying with the people and politics of polarisation".

See Page 2



A child sitting in a bucket being evacuated by a man and a policeman from a flooded area of Verma Nagar due to the overflowing Ariyar river following heavy rain, in Trichy district on Tuesday PTI

## Air quality panel orders closure of NCR plants not using clean fuels

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) on Tuesday issued directions for immediate closure of industries located in industrial areas where PNG infrastructure and supply are available but have still not switched over to PNG.

"These violating industries/ industrial units will not be permitted to schedule their operations till December 12, 2021, and the position will be reviewed for further decisions," CAQM said.

While the air quality in Delhi is not improving despite the several measures taken by both Centre and Delhi Government, the CAQM has enforced strict actions against the industries. "The commission believes that there is an urgent need to take further pre-



ventive measures, as a matter of extreme emergency and abundant caution," it added.

Earlier, CAQM directed Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh (UP) to audit inspect the industries which are already connected to PNG supply and ensure that those industries are

not using any other polluting fuels like coal and maintain strict vigil to prevent the use of unapproved fuels in the NCR, through the enforcement agencies concerned and take stringent action, in the case of the defaulting units.

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## SC rejects NIA plea against bail to Sudha in Elgar case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday dismissed National Investigation Agency's (NIA) appeal challenging the Bombay High Court order granting default bail to lawyer-activist Sudha Bharadwaj in the Elgar Parishad-Maoist links case.

"We see no reason to interfere with the High Court order," said a bench of Justices UU Lalit, S Ravindra Bhat and Bela M Trivedi, refusing to consider the submissions raised by the NIA which had moved the apex court against the December 1 order.

Bharadwaj was arrested in the Elgar Parishad-Maoist links case in August 2018 under the provisions of the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. The activist lawyer was accused of hatching conspiracy to overthrow the Union Government, was enti-



tled to bail and its denial would be in breach of her fundamental right to life and personal liberty guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution, the High Court had said.

The High Court had directed that Bharadwaj, lodged in the Byculla women's prison, be produced before the Mumbai special NIA court on December 8, and conditions of her bail and date of release be decided.

Bharadwaj is the first

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

The High Court had rejected the default bail plea filed by eight other co-accused in the case — Sudhir Dhawale, Varavara Rao, Rona Wilson, Surendra Gadling, Shoma Sen, Mahesh Raut, Vernon Gonsalves and Arun Ferreira. The case relates to alleged inflammatory speeches delivered at the Elgar Parishad conclave, held at Shanivardana in Pune on December 31, 2017, which the police claimed triggered violence the next day near the Koregaon-Bhima war memorial located on the city's outskirts.

## Pay \$5 mn in 2 weeks or face liquidation, HC tells SpiceJet

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Madras High Court has stayed its earlier order of winding up SpiceJet and the airline will soon initiate "appropriate remedial steps including preferring an appeal" against the order before a higher bench, the company said on Tuesday.

In a filing to BSE, the budget carrier said the Madras High Court had on Monday issued an order of "winding up SpiceJet and appointment of official liquidator" in a case filed by Credit Suisse claiming non-payment of \$24.01 million dues to engine maintenance services firm SRT Technics.

"The Madras HC despite holding that SRT did not have a valid authorization from DGCA to carry out engine

maintenance during the currency of the agreement rejected the company's defence and ordered winding up of the company and directed the official liquidator to take over the assets of the company," SpiceJet noted.

However, on the same day, the Madras High Court issued another order wherein it stayed its previous order and gave SpiceJet "a period of three weeks, subject to the condition that the company deposits the amount equivalent to \$5 million within two weeks."

"The Company is examining the order and shall initiate appropriate remedial steps including preferring an appeal before the appellate jurisdiction within the time frame allowed by the HC," SpiceJet noted.

Continued on Page 11



# Varanasi to host month-long programmes

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Varanasi will host a month-long cultural exercise following the inauguration of the "Kashi Vishwanath Dham" (Kashi Vishwanath corridor) by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on December 13, and all BJP chief ministers and deputy CMs will attend the ceremony which will be broadcast live from over 51,000 places nationwide, the party said on Tuesday.

Lauding Modi as a hero of Indian culture for fulfilling his resolve to transform the holy city, BJP general secretary Tarun Chugh said in a press briefing that it was almost after 250 years that a renovation and beautification exercise around the famous Kashi Vishwanath temple has been done.

The mega cultural outreach exercise assumes extra significance as the BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh is headed for assembly polls early next year, and the party's work on its Hindutva agenda, including ongoing construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya, is a major component of its campaign besides development works undertaken by its governments at the Centre and the state.

The inauguration ceremony has been named "Divya Kashi, Bhavya Kashi" (divine Kashi, grand Kashi).

In Varanasi the BJP will also hold a conference of its chief ministers and deputy chief ministers on December 13 and 14 where they will deliberate on their governments' welfare agenda and how to further help people, Chugh said, adding that they will leave on December 15.

"To make this once-in-a-lifetime historical and unprecedented event, BJP president J P Nadda has planned several events at the party-level. For one month, starting on December 13, 2021 and till

## Stepping up ethanol production may help reduce crude oil import: Modi

PTI ■ GORAKHPUR

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said stepping up ethanol production can help reduce the import of crude oil and prove to be an extra means of earning for sugarcane farmers.

He claimed that before the BJP came to power, only 20 crore litres of ethanol was being sent to oil companies from Uttar Pradesh, which now increased to around 100 crore litres.

Addressing a public meeting here after dedicating to the nation three mega projects, Modi said, "Every year, India spends around Rs 5-7 lakh crore on crude oil for petrol and diesel. We can reduce this import by giving emphasis on ethanol and biofuel."

"Purvanchal has been a bastion of sugarcane farmers. Ethanol can prove to be an extra means of earning for sugarcane farmers, apart from sugar," he said.

"Biofuel is being produced in different factories of UP. Before our government, only 20 crore litres of ethanol was sent to oil companies from UP. Today, around 100 crore litres of ethanol is being sent from Uttar Pradesh alone," he said.

January 14, 2022 (Makar Sankranti), various programmes and events will be organised across the country," Chugh, who was supported by Union minister G Kishan Reddy, said.

A conference of mayors from across the country is also scheduled for December 17 followed by a congregation of experts and farmers working on organic and



The PM also said the country earlier spent thousands of crores to import edible oils.

"A national mission has been started to change this situation and produce adequate edible oil in the country," he said.

progressive farming.

Chugh said the city will host a variety of programmes with an emphasis on highlighting its culture and heritage for a month till January 14.

Over 3,000 seers, figures associated with different religious maths, artistes and other noted people will assemble at the venue on December 13 to witness the

On the mega fertiliser plant inaugurated by him here, Modi said, "The way Bhagirathi brought the Ganga (to the Earth), the same way Urja Ganga has been brought to bring fuel to this plant."

"Under the PM Urja Ganga

Pipeline Project, a pipeline has been laid from Haldia to Jagdishpur. Because of it, the Gorakhpur fertiliser plant has started and a dozen districts in eastern India are getting cheap gas," the PM added.

December 9.

State units of the party will be giving details of their programme in the days ahead, Chugh said.

The BJP will also organise a youth meeting in Varanasi on January 12, birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.

Reddy, who is Union culture and tourism minister, said the renovation work has been undertak-

en with utmost care with no changes being made to the original structure of the Kashi Vishwanath temple.

The scale of the renovation work Modi, who represents the city in Lok Sabha, has brought about there is very visible, he said.

BJP president Nadda has prepared an extensive exercise to ensure that people across the country can watch the month-long programmes, he said.

Party sources said its MPs, who have been asked to remain in Delhi as Parliament's winter session is underway, may watch together the inauguration live from the national capital.

Built over a sprawling area of 5,000 hectares, the corridor has decongested the temple complex, which was earlier surrounded by buildings on three sides, officials have said, noting that the project will connect the two things Varanasi is well known for: Kashi Vishwanath temple and Ganga river.

Modi had laid the foundation of the corridor in March 2019. Over 300 buildings were purchased and demolished to create the space for the project. The Uttar Pradesh government constituted the board to expedite the work on it.

Officials said the idea is to preserve existing heritage structures, provide new facilities in the temple complex in the public-private partnership mode, ease the traffic and movement of people around the temple and connect the temple with ghats with direct visibility. Hundreds of small temples have been made a part of the corridor.

The project ensures easy pedestrian movement for pilgrims and comfortable holding zones, as well as crowd management and emergency operational procedures and better experiences around the religious rituals.

## Govt likely to bring 2nd supplementary budget in winter session

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh government is likely to bring the second supplementary budget for the 2021-22 fiscal during the coming session of UP assembly.

The Yogi Adityanath government had obtained the approval of the state legislature for the first supplementary budget of 2021-22 in August this year. The size of the supplementary budget was Rs 7,301.52 crore to meet additional expenditure and was only 1.33 per cent of the annual budget of Rs 5.5 lakh crore for 2021-22.

The second supplementary budget is for financing the populist schemes and mega projects. The winter session of UP assembly will begin from December 15 and it will be the last session of the Yogi government as the state goes to the polls in January-February next year. The government is also likely to table the vote on account for the first quarter of the next fiscal 2022-23 for financing government expenditure.

After inauguration of the Kashi Vishwanath Corridor and ongoing construction of Ram temple at Ayodhya, the state government might announce some new projects for Mathura. In the supplementary budget, the Yogi government is likely to make provisions for new spiritual and tourism projects for Mathura.

In the proposed supplementary budget, financial provisions for Ganga Expressway, Jewar International Airport and Gorakhpur Metro could be made. Besides, the state government might make fresh and additional provisions for remitting the scholarship of students.

Officials at the assembly secretariat said that the detailed schedule of the winter session was yet to be worked out as the process would begin after the Parliamentary Affairs Department officially communicated to the assembly speaker about the decision for the session taken by the state cabinet.

On Monday, the state cabinet had approved the proposal of convening the winter session of UP legislature from December 15. On the next day of the commencement of the winter session, the Yogi cabinet would be meeting for the first time at the Kashi Vishwanath temple premises in Varanasi.

### CLASSIFIEDS

#### NOTICE

I have changed my name from Mo. Faisal to Mohammad Faisal S/o Mohammad Noor Miyan R/o Mohalla Pansariyan, Kannauj.

#### NOTICE

I have changed my name from Dharmendra Kumar Aswani to Dharmendra Aswani Dharmendra Aswani S/o Hari Ram Aswani R/o 118/334-D, Kaushalpur, Kanpur

#### NOTICE

Informed that plot no A-01/15 Vijay Khand Gomti Nagar Yojna Lucknow Original Allotment letter has been lost somewhere. If anybody use this letter It will be illegal. Mr Farukh Shah s/o Mr Anwar Alam Shah resident of 05/113 Sector 5 Vikas Nagar Lucknow.

#### NOTICE

To be informed that in my service record my daughter name is wrongly mention Shalini Pandey while her correct name is Shalinee Pandey in all future purpose shalinee Pandey D/o Rajesh Kumar Pandey R/o ES-1/691 Sitapur Road Yojna Aliganj Lucknow.

#### सूचना

**कार्यालय छप निबन्धक, सण्डीला जनपद-हरदोई**  
वार ०३/१२/२०२१ अन्तर्गत घारा ४०  
संश्लेषण विधिवत् अन्तर्गत  
प्रति विज्ञापित  
एतद्वाक्य सूचित किया जाता है कि एक किराया बरीयतनामा कथित निषादक बरलाज आनन्द सायलस पुत्र रका लोरेन्स राबर्ट सायलस नि १२८/५० K.K. ब्लाक किराईदार नगर कानपुर नगर ब्लाक श्रीमती दीपा सायलस पत्नी रका बरलाज आनन्द सायलस व श्री सायलस सायलस पुत्र रका बरलाज आनन्द सायलस निगम नि १२८/५०K.K. ब्लाक किराईदार नगर कानपुर नगर कथित निषादित दिनांक ३०.०७.२०२० को बरीयत के कथित दावेदार श्रीमती दीपा सायलस पत्नी रका बरलाज आनन्द सायलस नि १२८/५०K.K. ब्लाक किराईदार नगर कानपुर नगर द्वारा इस कार्यालय में दिनांक ३०.११.२०२१ को निबन्धन हेतु प्रस्तुत किया गया है। दावेदार द्वारा प्रस्तुत अभिलेखावली वरीयतकर्ता बरलाज आनन्द सायलस पुत्र रका लोरेन्स राबर्ट सायलस का दिनांक ०३.०९.२०२० को निषात हो चुका है। उक्त मनोरणारण वरीयत के संबंध में यदि किसी को कोई आपत्ति हो तो वह इस विज्ञापित के प्रकाशन की तारीख से ३० दिनों के अन्दर अपनी आपत्ति कार्यालय छप निबन्धक सण्डीला में प्रस्तुत कर सकता है।  
(अनुमति सिद्ध)  
उप निबन्धक सण्डीला  
दिनांक ०२.१२.२०२१

## LJD to contest from 19 districts in UP

New Delhi (PTI): The Loktantrik Janata Dal (LJD) on Tuesday said it will contest from 19 districts in the upcoming Uttar Pradesh assembly elections and will initiate talks for an alliance with the Samajwadi Party and the Congress for the polls.

In a statement issued by its National General Secretary Javed Raza and Rajya Sabha member M V Shreyams Kumar, the party said initial talks are going on with CPM, CPI and Forward Block, among others, for an alliance and more political parties are expected to join the alliance. The party's patron Sharad Yadav has been authorised to initiate alliance talks with the Samajwadi Party and the Congress for the state polls, the statement said. Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh are likely to be announced early next year.

## 'Will Krishna temple be built in Lahore if not in Mathura'

PTI ■ MATHURA

Uttar Pradesh minister Laxmi Narain Chaudhary has rhetorically asked if the Krishna temple is not built in Mathura, will it be built in Lahore in Pakistan.

The supposed temple site, which is a subject of multiple lawsuits, is located inside an Aurangzeb-era mosque in Mathura and shares its premises with a prominent temple.

The minister said the Krishna temple will be complete if it is constructed on the entire land up

to the remains of Kans Qila, an area which includes the Shahi Idgah mosque.

"The area of the temple should stretch up to the dilapidated wall of Kans Qila," Chaudhary told reporters.

"If the Krishna temple will not be built in Mathura, would it be built in Lahore," he had asked.

His remarks came days after the Akhil Bharat Hindu Mahasabha was denied permission for installation and 'jalabhishek' of Lord Krishna's idol on December 6 at the Idgah adjoining the Krishna temple.

The district administration on November 28 had imposed prohibitory orders under CrPc Section 144.

Meanwhile, another UP minister Anand Swarup Shukla said the Muslim community should come forward and hand over 'safed bhawan' (white structure) at the Shri Krishna Janmabhoomi in Mathura to Hindus.

He said while the court had resolved the Ayodhya issue, the white structures' in Kashi (Varanasi) and Mathura hurt Hindus.

He was apparently referring to

the Muslim religious structures at the two places.

"A time will come when the white structure in Mathura will be removed with the help of the court. Dr Ram Manohar Lohia had said that the Muslims of India would have to believe that Ram and Krishna were their ancestors and that Babar, Akbar and Aurangzeb were attackers. Do not associate yourself with any building built by them," Shukla, the minister of state for parliamentary affairs, had told reporters on Monday evening.

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Be inform that my client Axis Bank intends to provide finance to one of its client Smt. Nalini Saxena, Sri Mohit Pradhan, Sri Mudit Pradhan, Sri Smit Pradhan & Sri Anil Pradhan against their property being Flat No. C-27/14/06, addressing 30.48 square meters only in Block - C - 27 known as Sulabh Awas situated at Sector - 6, Gomti Nagar Extension, Lucknow and in chain of title of said property being original allotment letter issued by Lucknow Development Authority in favour of (1) Sri Prakash Chandra Saxena (2) Smt. Nalini, is allegedly lost and misplaced. If any person has any right, title or interest over the said property, he may approach to the undersigned within seven days in writing along with the evidence of his such right, title or interest and if no such objection will be received within the said period it will be presumed that the property in question is free from all encumbrances and any claim in respect thereof against owners shall be void and ineffective.

(Tarun Prakash Srivastava)  
Advocate  
Office: Room No. 111, City Hotel, 24, B.N. Road, Lalbagh, Lucknow, Mob.: 9335914262

## Akhilesh, Jayant address joint rally, announce tie-up for poll

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav and Rashtriya Lok Dal president Jayant Chaudhary formally announced their alliance for Uttar Pradesh assembly elections in 2022 at a joint rally in Meerut on Tuesday.

Akhilesh and Jayant arrived for the rally, dubbed 'Parivartan Sandesh', in Dabathua area of Meerut in the same helicopter.

The SP and RLD had earlier entered into alliance for the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, with little dividend. The leaders of the two parties, however, remained on cordial terms and decided to continue the alliance for 2022 UP assembly elections.

Addressing the rally on Tuesday, the SP chief said that if the alliance came to power after next year's elections, the first work would be to build a memorial for 'martyrs' of the year-long farmers' agitation. He also prophesied that the 2022 assembly election would witness the total eclipse of the Bharatiya Janata Party in western UP, as the ruling party practised the politics of lying with the people and politics of polarisation.

Addressing the gathering, Akhilesh remembered Chaudhary Charan Singh, Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar, Ram Manohar Lohia and farmer leader Mahendra Singh Tikait and highlighted their contribution to making an egalitarian society.

"Now, the BJP will be wiped out from the state. This time there would be sunset of



the BJP forever in west Uttar Pradesh. 'Kisano ka inquilab hoga, 2022 me badlav hoga (There will be revolution by farmers and change in 2022),' the SP chief said.

"The BJP is privatising the assets of the people and in turn benefitting the corporate sector, thus depriving the youth of the jobs in public sector undertakings (PSUs). The prime minister had promised that people in slippers will travel in planes, but with the cost of petrol and diesel so high, people cannot travel even in cars and bikes," he said.

Jayant Chaudhary slammed the Yogi Adityanath government for the recent leak of papers of competitive examination and subsequent cancellation of the Teacher's Eligibility Test and said that because of such incidents, youths were not getting jobs and the ruling party would surely get a defeat

reply from the people in the UP assembly polls next year as they had understood its politics of hatred,

Talking about the alliance, the RLD chief said, "The BJP talks of 'hatred' and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath starts with Aurangzeb and ends with the Kairana exodus. Babaji becomes angry very soon. You have never seen him smiling. He smiles only when he is with 'bacchde' (calves). I ask you people to free him so that he can play with his calves for 24 hours. He cannot handle government files."

Hailing the farmers' agitation and referring to the repeal of three Central farm laws that triggered a year of protests, Jayant said, "I appreciate farmers for winning a big battle and forcing Prime Minister Narendra Modi, probably for the first time, to bow before them."

## 'Ox and buffalo cannot be yoked together'

Lucknow (PTI): Uttar Pradesh Minister Laxmi Narayan Chaudhary on Tuesday mocked the Samajwadi Party and Rashtriya Lok Dal alliance for the upcoming Assembly polls, saying an ox and a buffalo cannot be yoked together.

He challenged SP chief Akhilesh Yadav and RLD president Jayant Chaudhary to contest the polls from each other's stronghold to set all doubts about the alliance to rest.

"This alliance is purely an opportunistic one and it will not fulfil any political objective. I throw an open challenge to both of the leaders.

"If there is a political understanding between them, then Jayant Chaudhary should contest from Etawah, Mainpuri, Etah, Farrukhabad or Azamgarh, and Akhilesh Yadav from Chhaprauli, Baghat or any seat in the Meerut division. This will set all doubts to rest about the alliance," Laxmi Narayan Chaudhary told PTI.

He claimed the voters of RLD will never vote for the SP and vice versa. "This alliance is not in the interest of the people of the state, but for personal interests," he added.

The SP and RLD on Tuesday formally announced their alliance for the 2022 Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls at a rally in Meerut and exud-

ed confidence that the BJP will be 'wiped out' from the state.

While SP chief Akhilesh Yadav promised to provide due rights to the farmers, RLD president Jayant Chaudhary said the first work after coming to power would be to build a memorial of those who died during the protest against the now-repealed Central farm laws.

Asked as to whether the alliance will continue after the UP Assembly elections, Laxmi Narayan Chaudhary, who is the dairy development, animal husbandry and fisheries minister, said "In villages, there is saying that an ox and a buffalo cannot be yoked together."

"In the 2009 Lok Sabha elections, RLD was contesting with the help of the BJP. The current RLD chief (Jayant Chaudhary) was a candidate from Mathura and then party chief Ajit Singh was contesting from Baghat. Even before the counting was over, they posed for photographs with Sonia Gandhi and eventually went with the Congress," he said.

The minister also sought to compare the RLD as a "political Bhasmasur".

"After the death of former prime minister Chaudhary Charan Singh, the political party, which allied with the RLD, its existence was in grave danger," he said.



# Omicron scare: Section 144 imposed in Lko

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Amidst the Omicron scare, the Lucknow police on Tuesday decided to restrict the presence of participants at weddings, religious places and other events besides re-introducing other curbs which were in place during the second wave of coronavirus.

A new order on implementation of section 144 of CrPC in Lucknow was issued on Tuesday. The order was issued by Joint Commissioner of Police (Law and Order) Piyush Mordia.

As per the order, the presence of guests at weddings and other events will be under certain conditions/restrictions. Only 100 people will be allowed to gather at a close venue at a time, with a Covid helpdesk at the entrance.

In open places, the number of participants will be according to the area and a Covid helpdesk will have to be set up at the entrance. There will be not more than 50 devotees allowed at religious places in an area/zone at a time barring the religious places under containment zones. Swimming pools will remain closed till further orders.

Cops have been asked to ensure Covid protocols in no uncertain terms. Movement on tractors, tractor-trolleys and tongas, and carrying firearms, inflammable substances, gas cylinders, deadly substances and weapons will remain completely restricted in 1-km radius of Vidhan Bhawan. Dharnas or demonstrations will also be completely banned in that area and action will be taken against violators under Section 144 of CrPC. Drone camera shooting of government offices in that area will also be completely restricted. Also, drone camera

shooting/photography without the permission of joint CP, law and order, will be completely banned. No person will be allowed to form a group of five persons or be a part of the group without the permission of joint CP. Sound amplifiers will not be allowed at religious places/public places/events/marches between 10 pm and 6 am. No one will be allowed to display lathis (elderly and differently-abled exempted), knife and other sharp-edged objects (barring Sikhs) in the area of Lucknow Commissionerate. The order also restricts

the use of inflammatory language to flare up communal sentiments/insult to religious flags/banners/ posters/ inflammatory speeches to target other religions/spreading rumours on social media/storing of soda water/inflammatory substance, storing of bricks which may be used in violence, publication and printing of contents which flare up communal tension, misbehaviour with policemen and employees of local bodies and health department. Admins of WhatsApp groups will be held responsible if some inflammatory mes-

sage or rumour is shared. The group admins will have to delete such content immediately and remove the member who posted this content. They also will have to inform the police. No one will be allowed to move via hotspot zones and all kinds of events will remain fully restricted in such areas, failing which the police will initiate action under Pandemic Act. Masking up will be mandatory and spitting at public places completely banned. Cyber café owners will be held responsible if they do not keep 6-month records with them.

# Dalit girl alleges rape by youth faking religious identity

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

A Dalit girl working as a domestic help alleged that a youth lied to her about his religion and raped her on the promise of marriage in Aliganj. She further alleged that the accused, identified as Nawazish-bin-Shams, duped her of about Rs 3 lakh and also took her mobile phone worth Rs 20,000. She lodged a case and also accused Nawazish's brother Asim Ahmad of defrauding her. The police registered a case of rape against Nawazish aka Vishal Singh Thakur for criminal breach of trust, forgery and threatening. Asim aka Vikas was also booked. As per the complainant, she met Nawazish three months back and both fell in love. Nawazish introduced himself as Vishal and started meeting her off and on. In due course of time, Nawazish introduced her to his brother Asim as Vikas. During the course of relationship, Nawazish

took Rs 2.49 lakh from the victim and promised to marry her. He later took Rs 47,000 and her mobile phone last time on October 21 and disappeared. "Nawazish's phone is switched off and he has disappeared all of a sudden. I went to his house where he lived with his brother, and it was only then I came to know that he had lied to me about his and his brother's religion," she stated in the complaint. "I work as a domestic help. Three months ago, I met Nawazish who introduced himself as Vishal. He, along with his brother, and two other men used to visit my house," she said. The 25-year-old victim is a slum dweller. Meanwhile, two unidentified miscreants gagged a woman and looted Rs 10,000 and ornaments from her house in Thakurganj on Tuesday evening. Zeenat of Fatima Colony was all alone when the miscreants stormed her house around 7:30 pm.

# Over 50% population in 4 dists fully vaccinated

SHARMILA KRISHNA ■ LUCKNOW

More than 50 per cent of the eligible population has been fully vaccinated in five districts of Uttar Pradesh. These districts include Lucknow, Baghpat, Shahjahanpur, Gautam Buddha Nagar and Ghaziabad. State Immunisation Officer Ajay Ghai said these districts have been consistent performers and credit should be given to the local administration and health authorities. "Baghpat has been a good performer since day one while Shahjahanpur has been performing well for the past month and a half. The administration and CMOs of these districts should be given due credit," Ghai said. Till December 6, Baghpat has completed 53.86 per cent of its second dose coverage as the estimated eligible population of the district is 9.36 lakh. Lucknow has completed 52.72% second dose coverage as its eligible population is 37.4 lakh. Gautam Buddha Nagar has fully vaccinated 76.36 per cent of its eligible population (15 lakh), Ghaziabad has fully vaccinated 54.47 of its estimated eligible population



(27 lakh), and Shahjahanpur has fully vaccinated 49.68 of its estimated population eligible (21.7 lakh). A majority of UP districts have a second dose coverage between 25 and 45 per cent. Regarding the increase in the pace of vaccination in view of the Omicron scare, Ghai said the effect would be seen in the coming days. District Immunisation Officer MK Singh said Omicron threat led to an increase in the pace of vaccination. The vaccination figures reached 35,000 on Monday and Lucknow has already given over 34 lakh second doses. On whether are some punitive measures in the offing to further accelerate the vaccination drive, he said no such move is being planned in Lucknow. Nodal officer for Covid vaccination drive at KGMU, Dr Nishant Verma also said that

Omicron threat increased the pace of immunisation. "For a long time we had an average of 200-300 vaccinations per day, but around 500 jabs were given on Monday. After a long gap, over 250 first doses were given," he added. Meanwhile, president of Organised Medical Academic Guild Dr Ishwar Gilada said the Omicron scare has made a difference in the country. "Omicron scare has helped the vaccination drive pick up pace. Also, punitive actions in some of the states have done the trick. In Kerala, the government has said that if people do not get vaccinated, they cannot avail of the relief in treatment at government hospitals if they get infected while Mumbai has already imposed double the amount of regular fine on weekends if people are seen without masks," he pointed out. Regarding their preparations, Dr SP Ambesh from SGPGI said they have activated a ward with 60 beds. "The Rajdhani Covid Hospital-1 has been re-converted into the Apex Trauma Centre while in the Rajdhani Covid Hospital-2, which had 70 beds, now has 60 beds even though there are no patients at the moment," he said.

# UP first state to administer over 17 crore vaccine doses

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh touched a new milestone when it became the first state in the country to administer over 17 crore vaccine doses since the rollout of the mass immunisation campaign against the novel coronavirus on January 16. Till date, Uttar Pradesh has administered in the excess of 17.02 crore vaccine doses and is followed by Maharashtra with 12.01 crore vaccine doses. In terms of percentage, over 37 per cent of the state's population

is fully vaccinated and more than 78 per cent has received one dose of the Covid vaccine. In the light of the emergence of the new novel coronavirus variant 'Omicron', the Yogi Adityanath government has expedited its vaccination coverage across the state. As per the latest figures on CoWIN, Uttar Pradesh has administered 11.55 crore first doses of the vaccine so far and 5.47 crore people have been administered both doses and are completely vaccinated. Keeping in mind the new coronavirus variant, the

state government is committed to providing vaccine shields to the people of the state at the earliest and work is being undertaken under a special strategy to expedite the vaccination in rural areas with the cluster approach and 'Har Ghar Dastak' strategy. In the ongoing door-to-door awareness campaign in villages, healthcare teams, including ASHA and Anganwadi workers, are bursting myths and motivating people to take the Covid vaccine jab at the earliest.



Rehearsal of a programme under Swarnim Vijay Varsh commemorating India's victory over Pakistan in the 1971 war underway in front of Vidhan Bhawan on Tuesday

### Notice Inviting Expression of Interest (EOI)

No.SSA/MDM/NABL-Testing/332/2021/7726      Date : 03.12.2021

**Mission Director, Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19, Assam invites Expression of Interest (EOI) through e-procurement process from National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) for testing of dry and cooked MDM Food .**

To participate in this EOI through e-procurement, applicant should have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) and have to register in the portal <https://assamtenders.gov.in> by themselves. The applicants who have downloaded the EOI schedules containing the tender details, terms and conditions, from the website shall submit their tender on-line on the website <https://assamtenders.gov.in>. The EOI should be submitted on-line as per date and time of submission as per prescribed schedule.

Sd/- Mission Director  
SSA, Assam  
cum State Nodal Officer-MDM

Janasanyog /CF/2257/21

# NR earns over ₹5.54 cr through checking drives

**Lucknow (PNS):** The Lucknow division of Northern Railways earned Rs 5,54,43,583 through checking drives in November. "This is a big achievement by even as the drives are still underway," a spokesman said. The Lucknow division of NR conducts ticket checking to ensure easy and comfortable journey to its authorised passengers while giving top priority to passenger amenities, he said. The drive was conducted under the supervision of DRM Suresh Kumar Sapra. The checking team consisted of officials and staff of commercial wing of the NR, Lucknow division. The spokesman said the ticket checking teams nabbed 82,450 passengers travelling without tickets or with improper tickets, and those found littering the railway stations, trains and circulating areas of railway stations. "We chattered the passengers and realized Rs 5,54,43,583, which is the highest income in one month in this fiscal as of now," he said. The Lucknow division of NR had earned Rs 2,96,46,976 in October 21 from irregular/without ticket passengers. In the current fiscal 21-22, the division earned Rs 20,50,87,197 from 3,16,578 passengers between April 21 and November 21. Sapra said these kind of ticket checking drives help in making the journey of authorised passengers easy and in curbing unauthorised travel.

# Sector, zonal magistrates asked to inspect polling booths

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

District Magistrate and District Election Officer Abhishek Prakash has directed all the zonal and sector magistrates to carry out physical inspection of polling booths in the next three days and submit a report. He said that before the assembly elections, they would inspect the booths once again and submit the report of forms 1 & 2. In a training session for all the zonal and the sector magistrates in view of the upcoming assembly elections, Prakash said zonal and sector magistrates form the backbone of polls and their responsibility is to see that polling takes place in a proper

manner. The DM said if any incident takes place at polling centres, or the polling party gives up, or there is some problem in the EVMs, sector magistrates and zonal magistrates guide the polling party. He said that the sector and zonal magistrates should have knowledge about all the forms, what to do if someone challenges the VVPATs and the process of mock poll etc. He said it is important for the sector and zonal magistrates to see that all arrangements at the polling booths are up to the mark. "The nodal officer for improving these facilities will be municipal commissioners in urban areas and chief development officer in

rural areas," he added. The DM said one of the most important things which need to be inspected is the vulnerability of polling booths. "The polling parties will set out on their respective booths at 6 am and the sector magistrates as well as zonal magistrates will be responsible for keeping the reserve stationery and ensuring that the polling party members get their allowance. On reaching the polling centres, they have to carry out a physical inspection of the booths and then submit a report in this regard to the officials concerned. When the polling ends, they have to ensure that the polling party returns safely," he said.



Mayor Sanyukta Bhatia listening to complaints of people on Lok Mangal Diwas

# Stress laid on women empowerment

**Lucknow (PNS):** A mega event called 'Search Within and Beyond', consisting of poster and slogan contests and inspirational talks, was organised at the Malviya Hall by the department of Western History,

University of Lucknow, under the aegis of Mission Shakti phase-3. Several colleges affiliated to LU participated in the competitions. The programme was conducted under the patronage

of Vice-Chancellor AK Rai. Students and teachers from affiliated colleges participated in huge numbers and carried out an awareness march for women empowerment. The VC inaugurated the

event and emphasised on the need to involve both the genders in order to empower women and create a balanced society. Former UP Police officer Satya Singh spoke about women's legal rights. She said awareness is important to stop violation of women's rights. Squadron Leader Toolika Rani, the first woman from UP to climb Mt Everest, spoke about providing equal opportunities to both genders, while manager of One Stop Centre Archana Singh shed light on the facilities available to women under the government initiative. Madhurima Lal was the convener of the event while the welcome address was given by head of Western History department Madhu Rajput.



## जिम्मेदार बनें यातायात नियमों का पालन करें

## सड़क सुरक्षा सप्ताह

06-12 दिसम्बर, 2021

## ध्वनि प्रदूषण न फैलाएं

दण्ड ₹10,000 या 3 माह से 6 माह तक का कारावास

आइए, हम सब यातायात नियमों का पालन करने का संकल्प लें।

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# Priyanka to release women-centric poll manifesto today

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Congress national general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra will release her party's women-centric election manifesto for Uttar Pradesh assembly polls here on Wednesday.

Priyanka Vadra will address a special press conference which will be held at UP Congress Committee headquarters here. This document will prove to be a milestone in the path of women empowerment in the state, claimed party leaders.

Priyanka Vadra had already announced 40 per cent reservation for women in Congress tickets for elections along with free scooty and smartphones for girl students besides several other sops for the women, if Congress was

voted to power in UP.

Meanwhile, Priyanka held several rounds of meetings with the office-bearers and members of election strategy committee and chargesheet committee relating to the preparations for the upcoming assembly elections for the second consecutive day on Tuesday.

Party sources here said extensive discussions were held on the strategy of winning the elections along with taking the Congress campaigns from door to door.

The members of the committee expressed their opinion on various topics related to the elections of Uttar Pradesh and the issues related to the people and gave suggestions.

The strategy was prepared with the chargesheet committee on the betrayal of the people by the Bharatiya Janata Party, Samajwadi Party and Bahujan Samaj Party governments, which have been in power in Uttar Pradesh for the past 32 years, and preparing the chargesheet on public issues and government's flaws.

Congress Legislature Party leader Aradhana Mishra 'Mona' and All India Congress

## PGV jibe at AKY remark that Congress will get zero seats

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Congress general secretary 'Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, who is leading Congress' charge in poll-bound Uttar Pradesh, on Tuesday, took a jibe at Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav, wondering if he was an astrologer.

The Congress leader was referring to Yadav's recent remark that her party would end up with zero seats in next year's UP assembly elections, likely to take place in February-March.

"Akhilesh Yadav might be an astrologer because he feels that Congress will get zero seats. We'll see what happens," Priyanka said while talking to media persons here on Tuesday.

Last Friday, while on a visit



to Jhansi, Yadav had said that the Congress was likely to get zero seats in the UP assembly polls.

"I don't know the role of the party in UP politics, but people will reject it," the SP chief further said.

Yadav, who was the chief minister of Uttar Pradesh from 2012 to 2017, contested the 2017 polls in partnership with the grand old party.

The experiment, however, ended in a disaster, with the alliance winning just 54 seats in the 403-member UP assembly; while the SP won only 47 seats, Congress candidates were victorious in just seven constituencies.

A chance meeting between Yadav and Gandhi in October had led to speculations that the two parties might join hands again.

**“AKHILESH YADAV MIGHT BE AN ASTROLOGER BECAUSE HE FEELS THAT CONGRESS WILL GET ZERO SEATS. WE’LL SEE WHAT HAPPENS”**

However, while the Sonia Gandhi-led Congress decided to go it alone, Akhilesh has formed an alliance with a host of parties, including Jayant Chaudhary's Rashtriya Lok Dal and Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party of Om Prakash Rajbhar, a former ally of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party.

president Virendra Chaudhary and Vishwa Vijay Singh and Moninder Sood Balmiki were present.

The second meeting was held with the chargesheet committee, in which it was decided to highlight the shortcomings of the non-Congress governments of BJP, SP and BSP in the upcoming assembly elections.

It was agreed to prepare a charge sheet on all the issues by compiling a list of false promises made by these parties to the people.

Through the charge sheet, a roadmap was set to expose the betrayal of the public and a strategy was made to bring out the truth.

During the meeting of the chargesheet committee, under the leadership of Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, chairman of the committee, Acharya Pramod Krishnan, coordinator Nadeem Javed and the members Praveen Aron, Meem Afzal, Pradeep Mathur, Supriya Srinet, Deepak Kumar, Shashi.

Walia, Pramod Pandey, Asfaquillah Khan, Matiu Rehman Bablu, Shiv Narayan Parihar along with the presidents of all frontal organisations were also present.



**Purvanchal Vidhut Vitran Nigam Limited (PUVVNL)**  
(A subsidiary of UP Power Corporation limited)  
Purvanchal Vidhut Bhavan,  
Vidut Nagar, P.O. - B.L. W.,  
Varanasi - 221004 Website: <http://www.etender.up.nic.in> Ref: No. 3097/PuVVNL(V)/ MM-I Date: 07.12.2021 **Tender Extension** The date of submission & opening of e-tender no., EAV-31/2021-22 is hereby extended up to 27.12.2021 (15:00 PM) & 28.12.2021 (15:00 PM) respectively. Further details can be seen at website [www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in). Other terms and conditions shall remain same. (Rajesh Kumar) Superintending Engineer (MM-I) No. 3097 Dt. 7.12.21 **SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION"**

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
Divl Rly. Manager's Office  
N. C. Railway, Prayagraj  
**Tender Notice No./Corrigendum**  
5320212022 Dated: 03.12.2021  
**CORRIGENDUM**  
NIT issued on 03.12.2021 was published on NCR website on date 29.11.2021 at about 11.30 hrs. Due to inadvertent error in feeding of similar work Criteria ie "Any civil Engineering work" of Tender No. 135 on NCR website, similar work was wrongly published. Hence, corrigendum as detailed below is required to be published in NCR web site, and in news paper accordingly, for the effect:-  
**S.N.: 1, NIT No. : 5320212022 -135, NIT Published on NCR website: Annual civil maintenance in Electric Loco Shed, Electric Training centre and Traction Motor Shop (TMS) for period ending 30.06.2022 in the section of SSEW/Juh/CNB under ADENHO/CNB. Advertised Value: ₹ 5000000.00. Similar Work for Eligibility criteria published : Any Civil Engineering work. Similar Work for Eligibility criteria published To be read as: NIL. All other conditions will be remain same. 124821(A)**  
**24 x 7 Passenger Helpline No. 139**

**COURT NOTICE**  
CITATION (BY ADVERTISEMENT)  
(Chapter XXX, Rule-21)  
IN THE HIGH COURT OF  
JUDICATURE AT ALLAHABAD  
ORIGINAL JURISDICTION  
TESTAMENTARY AND  
INTESTATE JURISDICTION  
**TESTAMENTARY**  
**CASE NO. 12 OF 2021**  
IN THE MATTER OF  
THE GOODS OF  
Late Rabia Basri D/O Late Abdul Rahman Resident of E 26/4 G.T.B.Nagar Kareli Scheme, District Allahabad (Prayagraj), ..... Deceased.  
Anil Jamal Ansari, ..... Petitioner.  
WHEREAS an application has been made by Anil Jamal Ansari Son of Mohammad Atiq Resident of E 26/4 G.T.B. Nagar Kareli Scheme District Allahabad (Prayagraj), for the probate of the will (or Letters of Administration to the estate) of Late Rabia Basri deceased, who died at Home, Allahabad on 14.01.2018 AND WHEREAS, the 05<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022 has been fixed for hearing of the said application. THIS CITATION is issued calling upon all persons claiming to have any interest to come and see the proceedings if they think fit before the grant of probate (or Letters of Administration).  
Given under my hand and the seal of the Court this 01<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2021.  
DEPUTY REGISTRAR  
HIGH COURT, ALLAHABAD  
Mohd Saleem Advocate Counsel for the Petitioner.

**NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY**  
**"PUBLIC NOTIFICATION"**  
**INTRODUCTION OF 25KV AC TRACTION**  
**"WARNING TO ROAD USERS"**  
It is notified for the information of the Public that in connection with introduction of 25KV AC Electric Traction over the Azamgarh (Excl.) — Shahganj Jn(Excl.) section of North Eastern Railway, level gauges have been erected at all the level crossings with clear maximum height 4.78m above road level with a view to prevent loads of excessive height from coming into contact or dangerous proximity to live traction wires(Contact wire), which shall be at a height of minimum 5.5m above the rail level at level crossings. Public are hereby notified to observe the height specified above for the purpose of loading vehicles and to see that the loads carried in road vehicles do not infringe the height gauges under any circumstances. **The dangers of a load of excessive height are as follows:- (i)** Danger to the height gauge and consequent obstruction to the road as well as the Railway line. **(ii)** Danger to the materials of equipment carried or the vehicle itself. **(iii)** Danger of fire and risk of life due to contact with or dangerous proximity to the conductors.  
**Chief Electrical Engineer, CPRO/EL-7, Gorakhpur**  
*About any passenger amenity complaint SMS on Mob. No.: 09794845955*  
**Do Not Smoke Bidi/Cigarette in train**

## NMPB, CIMAP sign MoU

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CSIR-CIMAP) signed an MoU for extending joint collaborative efforts to promote the production of quality planting material (QPM) of medicinal plants.

The MoU will facilitate development of QPM of medicinal plants and herbs identified by NMPB and help in establishment of their nurseries for QPM development, promotion, conservation and cultivation of the appropriate medicinal plants in different agro-climatic zones.

CIMAP can also undertake research on mass multiplication, agro-technology development, QPM generation of selected medicinal plants and herbs. "During the tenure of MoU, NMPB will work through its implementing agencies — state medicinal plant boards, state horticulture departments, regional-cum-facilitation centres across India in conjunction and collaboration with CIMAP and support projects related to QPM development of medicinal plant species. Working under the Ministry of Ayush, NMPB is mandated to coordinate all matters relating to medicinal plants and support policies and programmes for growth of trade, export, conservation and cultivation of medicinal plants," a senior faculty member said.

brainstorming with the Strategy committee related to the election strategy and implementation.

The role of all departments, frontals organisations and cells for the time-bound

implementation of the programmes were decided after in-depth discussions on all the important topics related to the strategy, programme and their time-bound implementation for all 403 seats in the

assembly elections 2022. Besides, goals were set during the meeting.

In this meeting, the chairman of the committee and former MP Rajesh Mishra, coordinator and former MP Rakesh

Sachan along with BP Singh, Sanjay Kapoor and Brijlal Khabri, secretary of Indian National Congress and Mohammad Mukim, Kamal Kishor Commando, Anil Shrivastava, UP Congress vice-

## 2 school managers drug, molest 17 Class 10 girls

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

In a bizarre case of attack on the modesty of minor girls, managers of two schools allegedly drugged 17 girls of Class 10 and molested them on the pretext of practical exams in Muzaffarnagar on November 17.

Ironically, instead of taking tough action against the accused, the local police went out of the way to bail out the accused. However, after Bharatiya Janata Party legislator from Purkaji, Pramod Utwal, took up the issue with senior officers, a case was registered and the local police station in-charge was shunted for inaction.

As per reports, two school managers stopped 17 girls from Bhopa at GGS International School at night, spiked their food and molested them at Purkazi. No female teacher was present with the girls when they were detained on the school campus. The girls were also threatened that they would fail in exams and their families would be killed if they told anyone about the incident.

The students stopped going to

school the next day and narrated the entire incident to their family members. The victims alleged that they had cooked khichdi for dinner but the school manager dumped it and made fresh food, which was spiked with sedatives.

The families of the victims alleged that even after the Purkazi police station was informed about the incident, the cops made attempts to save the school managers. They also tried to pressure a local journalist by registering a complaint against him by the school managers for spreading rumours and blackmailing.

The matter finally came to light 17 days later when BJP MLA Pramod Utwal intervened and a probe was ordered. The parents of two victims recently approached Utwal and after learning of the incident, he immediately spoke to senior officers after which a case was registered against manager of Surya Dev Public School, Bhopa, Yogesh Kumar and the manager of GGS International School Purkaji, Arjun Singh under Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and other relevant

sections of the Indian Penal Code.

Meanwhile, the SHO of Purkazi police station, who tried to downplay the incident and ignored the complaints of the victims' families, has been shunted out.

Speaking about the incident, Utwal said: "The police station tried its best to suppress the matter. The girl students who were victimised are financially weak and they were also threatened. The girls are so terrified that they have not gone to school since the night of November 17. We will ensure the strictest possible punishment for the accused. If they do not surrender in time, their families will also face the music."

District Inspector of Schools Gajendra Kumar said, "Several irregularities have also come to the fore about the two schools. The school administrations were allowed to conduct classes only up to Class 8, but they admitted students till Class 10. We will approach Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) authorities to derecognise the two schools."

Senior Superintendent of

**THE FAMILIES OF THE VICTIMS ALLEGED THAT EVEN AFTER THE PURKAZI POLICE STATION WAS INFORMED ABOUT THE INCIDENT, THE COPS MADE ATTEMPTS TO SAVE THE SCHOOL MANAGERS**

Police of Muzaffarnagar, Abhishek Yadav, said: "A complaint was received from the father of a girl studying in a school under Purkazi police station area and a case was registered in this regard. The charges were found to be true. Inspector of Purkazi police station has been sent to the police lines and a departmental inquiry has been initiated against him. We are hopeful of arresting the culprits soon as five teams, including SOG and Crime Branch, are zeroing in on them."

## AKTU's admission percentage increases

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

AKTU's admission percentage has increased in the academic session 2021-22. AKTU spokesperson Ashesh Mishra said a total of 89,616 students have taken admission in undergraduate level courses till the last date of admission (November 30). The increase could be because of the pandemic when parents are preferring to send the students to local colleges, he said.

"There are about 1.9 lakh seats in undergraduate level courses in about 763 affiliated institutes of the technical university. There are two types of admission processes — one through counselling and the other direct. This time, 19,057 students took admission through counselling and 70,559 through direct process," he elaborated.

This time, the attitude of students towards the affiliated institutions of the technical university has been positive. "Over the years, facilities like centralised placement and innovation have been provided to

**“THERE ARE ABOUT 1.9 LAKH SEATS IN UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL COURSES IN ABOUT 763 AFFILIATED INSTITUTES OF THE TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY. THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF ADMISSION PROCESSES — ONE THROUGH COUNSELLING AND THE OTHER DIRECT. THIS TIME, 19,057 STUDENTS TOOK ADMISSION THROUGH COUNSELLING AND 70,559 THROUGH DIRECT PROCESS”**

the students. Due to this, the attitude of the students has become positive.

To ensure quality technical education, a campaign for NBA accreditation has been run by AKTU. As a result, 74 branches of 33 affiliated institutions have got accreditation. Quality technical education and centralised placement facility are believed to be the two main factors for increasing the gross enrolments. Like last year, this year too there has been a positive increase in the percentage of admission. This time, the admission percentage is 82.21 as compared to the total seats," he

added.

### BLOOD DONATION

AKTU Vice-Chancellor Vineet Kansal has issued a letter urging affiliated institutions to organise blood donation camps. The VC has requested the institutions to coordinate with the local district administration and registered blood banks and conduct blood donation programmes continuously. The call has been given by Kansal to organise blood donation camps as per the requirement of the Governor's Secretariat.

### CITYBRIEFS

#### VICTORY FLAME

In December 1971, the Indian Armed Forces achieved a decisive and resounding victory unparalleled in the annals of military history. The 1971 Indo-Pak war which commenced on December 3, 1971 saw valiant actions by Indian soldiers and resulted in the formation of a new nation - Bangladesh. To commemorate 50 years of this historic victory, India is celebrating Swarnim Vijay Varsh. As part of these celebrations, a victory flame or 'Swarnim Vijay Mashaal' will be in Lucknow from December 8 to 12. The flame being honoured in Lucknow is the one which moved towards the eastern cardinal direction and is on the final leg of its journey towards the National War Memorial after visiting various battle fields including those in Bangladesh. Surya Command is commemorating the Swarnim Vijay Varsh with a series of events from December 8 to 12. On


the morning of December 9, the Government of Uttar Pradesh is organising a function to pay tribute to the flame with a grand celebration at Vidhan Bhawan. It will be placed at Janeshwar Mishra Park from 4 pm to 5:30 pm the same day enable the citizens of Lucknow to pay their tributes.

#### INDIA BOOK OF RECORDS

Vyom Ahuja, a class 8 student of City Montessori School, Gomti Nagar Campus I, added another feather to his cap by entering the India Book of Records for the 29th time, showcasing his extraordinary intellect and talent at a young age of 11 years and 10 months. Vyom has achieved this feat by becoming the 'Fastest child to solve Brainvita game' under India Book of Records 2022. His citation by the India Book of Records read, "The record for being the fastest to solve the Brainvita game was set by Vyom

(born on December 30, 2009) of Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. He completed the game in just 24.89 seconds. Earlier on Republic Day, Vyom received the 'Pradhanmantri Bal Puraskar 2021' from Prime Minister Narendra Modi.





**Office of the Executive Engineer,**  
**Construction Division-3 , PWD,Sultanpur**  
E-mail Id- [sepwdsuamethi01@gmail.com](mailto:sepwdsuamethi01@gmail.com)

**E-Tender Notice**

No. 1174 /4A/2021-22 Date : 01.12.2021

On behalf of Hon'ble Governor, U.P., Executive Engineer. C.D.-3, P.W.D. Sultanpur invites online bids for the following works from the registered eligible contractors. Road work in UP PWD.

Sl. No.	Division Name	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Bid Security (Rs. In Lacs)
1	2	3	4	5
1	C.D.-3, Sultanpur	S/R of Loharamau se Pitamberpur Via Judara Link Road by Departmental HMP	28.80	0.00
2	C.D.-3, Sultanpur	S/R of Saranv Link Road by Departmental HMP	3.60	0.00
3	C.D.-3, Sultanpur	S/R of Khadar Basantpur Link Road by Departmental HMP	10.30	0.00
4	C.D.-3, Sultanpur	Maintenance of Naugawateer Ghat Bridge on Dhanpatganj Kurwar Mangapur Road Km. 9 in Vidhan Sabha Isauli, District Sultanpur	22.70	0.00

The bid can be seen and downloaded online from 10.12.2021 and can be uploaded up to 12:00 Noon of 17.12.2021. The Technical bid shall be opened on 17.12.2021 at 12:30 afternoon.  
All the conditions related to bid can be seen on <http://etender.up.nic.in>

(D.K. Ahirwar)  
Executive Engineer  
Construction Division No.-3,  
PWD. Sultanpur

UP- 170796 Date 7.12.2021 विज्ञापन वेबसाइट [www.upgov.nic.in](http://www.upgov.nic.in) पर उपलब्ध है।



# Baghel flays BJP for separating KV, Annapurna temples

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel strongly criticised the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) led central and state governments for separating Kashi Vishwanath and Ma Annapurna temples. 'It has been a tradition of Kashi that whoever comes to the Kashi Vishwanath temple, definitely, goes to its nearby Ma Annapurneshwari temple but the BJP government has divided it, separating Kashi Vishwanath and Ma Annapurna temples by building Kashi Vishwanath Corridor,' he said while talking to the reporters at a hotel in Maldahia area here on Tuesday.

Baghel claimed that in his talks with Mahant of Ma Annapurna temple Shankar Puri, the latter was not happy in the manner the promises of constructing a grand gate between the two temples were not met. 'Now just a path of three feet has been left which would pose a lot of inconvenience to the devotees to go to the Ma Annapurna temple after offering prayers at Kashi Vishwanath temple,' said the Chhattisgarh CM.

Making scathing attacks on the BJP government for making false promises to the farmers to double their income by 2022, he said, in reality the state government even failed to provide sufficient fertilisers to the farmers. 'Congress will include all these issues in its manifesto and if the party



Chattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel talking to Gurupad Sambhav Ram at Parao Ashram in Varanasi on Tuesday.

Pioneer

comes to power in the state, then the electricity bill will be halved apart from giving the farmers the minimum support price (MSP) of paddy at Rs 1,950 per quintal and wheat at Rs 2,200 per quintal.

He also flayed the BJP led central and state governments for their failures on the employment issue. Highlighting the achievements of his government in Chhattisgarh, he said that we have started buying cow dung at Rs 2 per kg and we are making electricity and fertiliser from the same raw materials.

'Through this project we

are giving employment to a huge number of unemployed persons,' he said, praising the Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi for helping the party get stronger in UP. He was optimistic about good performance by the Congress in the upcoming assembly elections in the state.

Meanwhile, Baghel visited Aghor Peeth Shri Sarveshwari Samuh Sansthan Devasthanam and Avadhoot Bhagwan Ram Kusht Seva Ashram. He met the chief of this leading ashram Gurupad Sambhav Ram. During his meeting with Gurupad, the Chhattisgarh CM

sought the blessings and inspiration of the former for running his government smoothly in the interest of the public. During his one hour stay, Baghel also tested green tea from Brahmanishalaya Sogda Ashram located in Jashpur district of Chhattisgarh state. Earlier, after reaching Parao Ashram directly from Babatpur airport around 9 am, Baghel performed aarti after garlanding the statue of Aghoreshwar Bhagwan Rama located in the Ganesh Peeth premises of the ashram. He was accompanied by several senior local Congress leaders.

# 42 lakh pucca house built for poor: Swatantra Dev Singh

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

Uttar Pradesh BJP president Swatantra Dev Singh said over 42 lakh pucca houses have been built for the poor in the state and each such family in the state would get a house before 2024. Toilets were constructed, potable water supply is being ensured, and the poor are getting free treatment with Ayushman cards. People are getting 18 to 23 hours power supply in the Yogi regime, he added.

He also slammed the opposition for comparing Muslim League and Pakistan founder Muhammad Ali Jinnah with Mahatma Gandhi and Vallabhbhai Patel and said people will never vote for leaders who honour and glorify Jinnah who was responsible for killings of Hindus during the Partition.

Targeting Samajwadi Party without taking its name in a rally at Karehabagh in Karchana assembly segment in trans-Yamuna area in Prayagraj, Singh said will those honouring Jinnah, who was responsible for killing of Indians and sending their bodies to India in trains get votes?" It's a promise to the motherland, that people would never forgive those who honour Jinnah," Singh said.

The BJP state chief further said that the opposition wants Hindus and Muslims to fight against each other and riots to



UP BJP President Swatantra Dev Singh addressing a huge rally in Prayagraj.

happen.

"Under the Yogi Adityanath government, both Hindus and Muslims are fighting together against poverty, and will continue to do so. Will people of the state like to vote for these people," he asked.

The forthcoming assembly election in UP is to ensure the

nation's prosperity and make it strong. The election will be fought on the issue of 'rash-travad' (nationalism), not caste and creed, Singh added.

Gone are the days when police used to sweep streets for criminals, they are now tightening the noose around mafias and goons and putting them in

jail, said Singh. Urging people to vote and ensure lotus blooms in assembly polls, Singh said, "Laxmi ji cycle aur hathi par nahin aati, woh kamal par hi aati hain." He added that PM Narendra Modi and CM Yogi worked tirelessly during Covid pandemic to save precious lives and livelihood.

# Badagaon PHC gets NQAS certification

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

There is continuous improvement in the health sector in Varanasi, the parliamentary constituency of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The happy result of this is that the Badagaon block located Primary Health Centre (PHC) of the district has met all the National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) and certified by the central government. By scoring 85.01 per cent marks, Badagaon PHC has become the first PHC of the district, which has proved to be of high standard in service, convenience and maintenance of patients. On this achievement, expressing his pleasure Additional Director (Health and Family Welfare), Varanasi Division, Dr Shashikant Upadhyay congratulated the staff and also appealed to them to maintain high level health facilities in the health centre.

Dr Upadhyay said that earlier people showed a little confidence about getting treatment in a government hospital but now due to better health



Badagaon PHC

services available at PHC level, this perception has been changed. 'Medical expenses have come down substantially. At PHC level all modern health services are available in Badagaon PHC,' he said, adding that on the basis of which this PHC has received NQAS certification. 'It will be improved further on all those parameters,' he added.

Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Dr Rahul Singh said

that it is a matter of pride for the district as after continuous tireless efforts by our team, this remarkable success has been achieved. Divisional Quality Advisor Dr RP Solanki said that in accordance with the guidelines of the Government of India, three internal, peer and external assessments were done for NQAS certification.

"The first inter-departmental assessment was done in

2019 in which Badagaon PHC got 76 per cent marks. After this, state level assessment was done in December last year in which this PHC got 83.57 per cent marks and in the last assessment held on November 22 and 23 by a two-member team of the central government, all the six departments within the PHC were assessed and given marks on the basis of their standards. In this assessment, the OPD of the PHC got 85.20 per cent marks, while lab 78.3 per cent, labour room 85.7 per cent, IPD 82.9 per cent apart from 92.7 per cent to national health programmes relating to dengue, malaria, tuberculosis, leprosy, diabetes, etc and 81.2 per cent to general administration. By scoring a total of 85.01 per cent marks, Badagaon PHC has met 100 per cent on all the parameters of NQAS,' he said, adding that for the last five years, Badagaon PHC has been selected for the Kayakalp Award from the state level, which has the distinction of being the first PHC in the whole of UP for this year (2020-21).

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ ALLAHABAD

North Central Railway has been selected for second prize under transport category in the 31st National Energy Conservation Awards (NECA) 2021. The results were announced on Tuesday morning. It is worth mentioning that NCR is observing National Energy Conservation Week and the award ceremony will be held on December 14 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. A total of 408 applicants participated for NECA 2021 till the closing date.

The Ministry of Power launched a scheme in 1991, to give national recognition through awards to industries and establishments that have taken special efforts to reduce energy consumption while maintaining their production.

BEE, under the guidance of the Ministry of Power, recognizes and encourages endeavours of industrial units, institutions and establishments in reducing energy consumption by felicitating them with National Energy Conservation

Awards (NECA) on the occasion of National Energy Conservation Day, celebrated on 14th December every year.

This year, the NECA awards are being organized as part of the "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav".

The National Energy Conservation Awards are given to the energy-intensive units of various sectors of the Indian economy for their exceptional achievements in reducing the specific energy consumption. A total of 408 applicants participated for NECA 2021 till the closing date.

GM, NCR, Pramod Kumar congratulated the staff and officers for this landmark achievement and appealed to maintain the momentum in the field of energy conservation.

Principal Chief Electrical Engineer, NCR, Satish Kothari informed about various initiatives taken by NCR in this direction.

In line with the national initiative on solar mission, North Central Railway has attached top most priority to Solar Energy generation.

Rooftop Solar Power Plants of 11.03 MWp capacity have been commissioned at different locations over NCR. Utmost emphasis has been laid on solar energy generation in mission mode.

Electrification of LC gates through Solar Photo Voltaic Module has been done. All the railway stations, workshops, loco sheds, offices, residential quarters have been provided with 100 per cent energy-efficient LED luminaries. Use of energy-efficient 3-star and above labeled electrical appliances/equipment has been encouraged.

Star rating of building/stations/big load centers, use of automatic power factor correction panels in HT/LT panels, review of contract demand vis-a-vis maximum demand, replacement of conventional geysers in rest houses, lobbies, retiring rooms, hospitals, running rooms, canteen, base kitchen by solar geysers, LED station name boards & sign boards are attracting passengers, astronomical timer switch on high mast towers-yard light-

ing/street lighting/circulating area.

Use of occupancy sensors for lighting control, use of energy-efficient VVVF control for lifts & escalators, provision of energy-efficient ceiling fans. 15.89 per cent of track over NCR territory has already been electrified & 100 per cent by June -2022 for reducing train operation on diesel. Energy Regeneration in 3-Phase AC Electric Locomotives over NCR. Provision of Head-on-Generation (HOG) in LHB coaches through HOG compliance locomotives to reduce Diesel consumption of power cars, 240 pairs of trains are running with HOG scheme over NCR, out of which, 22 pairs are running with NCR rakes, 2 Crore units (kWh) of electrical energy amounting to Rs. 12 Crores per month have been saved through energy regeneration in 3-Phase locomotives. Web based Energy Monitoring System at major load centres in TSS and in Loco are the steps initiated by NCR for power conservation.

# Suspension of 3 officers recommended

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

District Magistrate (DM) Kaushal Raj Sharma recommended to the government to suspend the project manager, AE and JE of UPPCL with immediate effect due to negligence in the synthetic playground work under construction at Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar Sports Stadium (Badalalpur).

Along with this, he also ordered for blacklisting the concerned contractor and recovering the amount from him by issuing a recovery certificate (RC). The DM has also asked the MD of UPPCL to come to Varanasi within three days to conduct on-site inspection of the works.

Sharma was reviewing the progress of development projects under construction at his

camp office here on Tuesday. While directing the engineers of Rajkiya Nirman Nigam, he said that the work under construction in Seer Govardhan should be completed immediately by campaigning on a war footing as it would be inaugurated during the upcoming visit of the Prime Minister. He directed the Public Works Department (PWD) and other

agencies to make the roads completely pothole free and said that there should not be any laxity in it. He also directed the officers of Smart City to get their under construction works completed at the earliest with quality by launching a drive on a war footing. The officials of CPWD, PWD and other departments were also present.

# CBI launches schemes to empower girls

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

General Manager of the Central Bank of India (CBI) Namita Roy Sharma on Tuesday said, "To make some and girls empowered, the bank has launched schemes such as St Greh Lakshmi and St Wahini."

Talking to the presspersons at regional office of the bank, here Sharma informed that the bank is running various loan schemes as per the requirements of the customers and added that for the empowerment of women and girls, the schemes 'St Greh Lakshmi for the home and St Wahini for the vehicle' have specially been launched.

Later, the GM attended the Credit Outreach Programme held by the regional office of the bank in Bhatti village in Lohta in which she distributed the loan of Rs 34.33



Central Bank GM Namita Roy Sharma addressing a press conference in Varanasi on Tuesday.

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crore in a total of 252 loan seekers.

The Regional Manager Anil Kumar welcomed the GM and apprised that the bank has launched missed call (No-9223901111) facility to inform about the loan facility and how

to apply for loan. The interested can avail the facility by applying for the loan, he added.

The leading District Manager Praveen Kumar Jha apprised of the Suraksha Bima Yojana launched by the government. The local MLA Surendra

Narayan Singh said that the government is getting the benefit of various schemes to the actual beneficiaries through banks. Chief Manager Dinesh Kumar Sinha and other bank officers were present on the occasion.

# Prayagraj dependent on Varanasi, Lucknow for genome sequencing

ALLAHABAD (PNS): Strict nihil in view of Omicron, which has spread in many countries, including India, has become the priority of the Central and state governments these days. Surprisingly, Prayagraj is still dependent on Varanasi, Lucknow or Delhi for genome sequencing.

Till now RT-PCR test is being done in Microbiology Lab of Motilal Nehru Medical College. Even if people suspected of Omicron infection are tested, samples will be sent to BHU or Lucknow.

Neither the test kit is available in the medical college nor the lab has received any order for genome sequencing test. Genome sequencing is an experimental method for testing new variants in corona-infected patients. Laboratories have complete kits for this test. In the first and second wave of corona, samples of lakhs of people were examined in the Microbiology Lab of Motilal Nehru Medical College. The RT-PCR test remained confined to the detection of infection only. The Delta variant has

also been tested not in Prayagraj but in BHU. Now even if there is a suspicion of Omicron, the samples will be sent to the laboratory of BHU Varanasi or Lucknow only.

Dr Monika Singh, Head of the Department of RT-PCR Testing of Microbiology Lab said that there is no kit to detect genome sequencing. Samples are sent to BHU, Lucknow or Delhi. There will be an order from the government, if the notification is issued at the district level, then the lab will get the kit. Dr Monika Singh fur-

ther said that no suspected patient of Omicron has been found in Prayagraj so far. No such sample has also been sent to the lab for testing. The Chief Medical Officer (CMO) of Prayagraj, Dr Nanak Saran said that at present, the system of testing the variant is not possible in Prayagraj as its state-of-the-art machine is in Delhi only, where samples are sent through KGMCL Lucknow. The kit is based on foreign technology and is quite expensive, the government is trying to arrange it.

# Radhakant Ojha elected president of All India HCBA

ALLAHABAD (PNS): The results of the counting of votes for the Allahabad High Court Bar Association elections were declared here on Tuesday afternoon. Radhakant Ojha bagged the coveted post of president. On the other hand, Manoj Mishra has won the post of Senior Vice President and SD Singh Jadaun has won the post of General Secretary. For the post of President, IK Ojha got 3275 votes, Ashok Kumar Singh got 2276 votes and IK Chaturvedi got 1085 votes. Satyadhir Singh Jadaun got

1951 votes, Vikrant Pandey got 1606 votes and Shashi Prakash Singh got 585 votes for the post of General Secretary. It may be pointed out here that the counting of votes of the HCBA elections had reached the crucial stage by Monday evening. The results of the posts of President, Senior Vice President and General Secretary were also expected on Tuesday. Till Monday, Radhakant Ojha had taken a decisive lead on the post of President and Satyadhir Singh Jadaun on the post of General

Secretary. On Monday, the fourth day of counting of votes, the counting of 6400 votes for the posts of President, Senior Vice President and General Secretary was completed in Library Hall. Counting of votes for the post of Joint Secretary Administration, Sanjay Singh Somvanshi has won the maximum number of 965 votes and for the post of Joint Secretary Library, Yadavesh

Yadav has won the maximum number of 1218 votes, although the official announcement is yet to be made. Voting was held on December 1 for the 28-member executive committee of the High Court Bar Association. A total of 7549 lawyers have voted in this. Senior advocate Shashi Prakash Singh, chairman of the Elders Committee, told that on Wednesday, in the study room of Pt. KN Mishra, the joint secretary press, joint secretary women and treasurer posts will be counted.



# DC inspects labour commissionerate

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Kanpur Divisional Commissioner Dr Raj Shekhar carried out a surprise inspection of the labour commissionerate and found 16 staff members absent without any information.

There are 155 staff members in 18 departments of the labour commissionerate.

The divisional commissioner said 16 staff members were absent from duty while five employees were on casual leave, three on compensatory leave and five on medical leave. He said orders were issued to withhold the salaries of the absent staff and to issue show cause notices to them.

He said Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had issued strict directives that all government officials and staff must be present in office on time and hear the problems of the common man and solve them as well. He said between 10:10 am and 10:30 am a large number of officials and staff were missing from the office. However, he said, Additional Labour Commissioner Faisal Aftab and Anjulata were found



Kanpur Divisional Commissioner, Dr Raj Shekhar, carried out a surprise visit at Labour Commissionerate.

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present. He said the last surprise visit was made in the past when over 50 per cent of the staff and officials were found absent and there was a substantial improvement in attendance in the last three months. He said from 50 per cent absence the absence had come down to 10 per cent which was certainly a good indication. He said more efforts were being

made to ensure that the staff presence was 100 per cent.

During the inspection, Dr Shekhar reviewed the problems of the people taken up in the Janata Darshan and settled by the officials. He asked the officials concerned to ensure that all the problems raised during Janata Darshan were settled and more momentum was given to the remaining works.

He said in order to speed up this issue directives had been issued to ensure that infrastructure for holding video conferencing should be arranged on priority. He said in the coming 15 days all such meetings were to be held through video conferencing in all the districts under the division and a regular review of the progress would be made.

# DM inspects preparations for PM’s visit to IIT-K

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Kanpur Nagar District Magistrate Vishak G Iyer, on Tuesday, visited the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur to review the security and other arrangements for the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi at its 54th Convocation on December 28, 2021.

IIT-Kanpur Director Dr Abhay Karandikar earlier had informed that this time the institute would arrange for virtual convocation for students who could not come to the venue to accept the degrees.

He said his year the DLitt honoris causa doctorate would be awarded to noted vocalist Ajay Chakraborty, Prof Rohini Madhusudan Godbole, physi-

cist and Chairperson, Axilor Ventures, Senapathy “Kris” Gopalakrishnan, who would motivate students through his journey to excellence. He said the students had been asked to file their registration online latest by December 10, 2021. He said only those students would take part who had taken both the vaccine doses of Covid vaccine latest by December 14,

2021. He said that 388 students would be awarded MTech degrees while 194 would be given their doctorates. He said there shall be a dress code.

The DM informed that the prime minister will dedicate the Kanpur Metro to the people of the city on the same day. He said that he would later address a huge rally at Nirala Nagar Railway Grounds.

# Katiyar: Road safety rules made to keep individuals safe

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Minister of State for Higher Education Neelima Katiyar, while inaugurating the third Road Safety Week on Tuesday at Model Driving and Training Centre, said in the current digital age use of machinery should be focused on constructive purposes rather than destructive purposes.

She said safety rested not only on the traffic police but equally on the individuals and they need to make all possible efforts to keep oneself safe especially on roads.

She said road safety rules were made to keep an individual safe and should not be

taken in the negative sense that it was infringement on their rights. She said driving under the influence of liquor was the major reason for road accidents and it not only posed a life threat to the driver but even to the person on the road, be it a pedestrian. She said the breath analyser test was being taken as an infringement of rights but it was mainly meant to keep the person safe while driving on the road. She advised all to refrain from drunk driving.

Katiyar said another reason for the road mishaps was not only chatting on mobile but also watching the mobile screen despite being on the driving seat and driving at a great speed on busy roads.

She said the objective of the traffic police was not to impose heavy fines by challans but also to keep the person safe. She said mobile phones, TV on dashboard, boozing while driving were the reasons resulting in a high number of fatal accidents on Indian roads.

RTO Rajesh Singh, while addressing the session, said the objective of the government was to bring down the deaths on roads by at least 10 per cent per year. He said if the traffic rules were strictly followed then certainly the death rate could be lowered by over 20 per cent. He said the government had decided to felicitate people who saved lives in road accidents. It may be mentioned

here that there is an acute crisis of traffic police and the traffic is managed by 95 per cent home guards and 5 per cent traffic cops. The irony is that money exchange hands for flouting road traffic rules and overloaded trucks are a common sight in Kanpur. Traffic lights hardly work and it is the habit of Kanpurites to jump red lights and the home guards remain silent spectators. At railway level crossings, the traffic blocks both sides of the roads on both the ends creating massive jams on roads.

Despite knowing the problem the district administration has not put CCTV cameras to monitor those who flout the norms.

# ‘Healthy soils essential for healthy plant growth’

KANPUR (PNS): Soil scientist, Dr Khalil Khan, while addressing a special session on World Soil Day said healthy soils were essential for healthy plant growth, human nutrition, and water filtration.

He said it supported a landscape that was more resilient to the impacts of drought, flood, or fire. He said soil helped to regulate the Earth's climate and stored more carbon than all of the world's forests combined.

He said soil health was fundamental for a healthy food production as it provided essential nutrients, water, oxygen and support to the roots, all elements that favoured the growth and development of plants for food production. He said soil hosted a big community of diverse organisms that improved the structure of the soil, recycled essential nutrients, and helped to control weeds, plant pests and diseases.

He said another important aspect was that when soil was healthy, it contributed to mitigating climate change by keeping or increasing soil organic carbon. He said soil was the basis of food systems as well as the place where all plants for food production grew. He said

for that reason it was extremely important to preserve soils and to start a global cultural movement which returned to soils the primary importance that they deserved.

Dr Khan said soil structure referred to the arrangement of solids and pore spaces within soil. He said solids formed from organic compounds and mineral ions clumped together to form aggregates. He said the gaps between these aggregates were the pore spaces. He said for soil used in agriculture, a 'well-structured soil' would have a continuous network of pore spaces to allow drainage of water, free movement of air and unrestricted growth of roots.

He said typically, a 'good' agricultural soil consisted of around 50 per cent solids, 25 per cent air and 25 per cent water, but this varied according to soil type.

“There are many reasons why a soil may become damaged. The use of heavy machinery is known to compact soil, which means that soil is less permeable to water, which increases the likelihood of soil erosion and flooding,” he said.

He added that high livestock densities could also com-

pact the soil and overworking the soil through tillage could destroy soil solids and reduce soil organic matter and nutrients.

Dr Khan said there were several methods to measure soil structure with advantages and disadvantages to each. He said measurement techniques ranged from low-tech options to the use of soil remote sensing and modeling. He said it was essential to carry out residue mulching, no-till farming, growing a cover crop or forage, managed grazing, using compost and bio-fertilisers, drip sub-fertigation, agro-forestry, integration of crops with trees and livestock, recycling of all bio-waste on land, and observing the law of return. He said it meant replacing everything that was removed from land and no removal of top soil.

Prominent among those present were Dr Chandrakala Yadav, Dr Amar Singh, Amarendra Yadav and hundreds of farmers.

**ABSBM DEMANDS ACTION AGAINST TIKAIT FOR HATE SPEECH:** The Akhil Bharatiya Sarva Brahmin Mahasabha has demanded penal action against the nation-

al spokesperson of Bharatiya Kisan Union, Rakesh Tikait, for his derogatory remarks against the Brahmin community.

Addressing media persons at Kanpur Journalists Club on Tuesday, ABSBM national president Virendra Dubey said that in a video viral on social media, Tikait is seen delivering hate speech against the Brahmin community in a public meeting organised somewhere in eastern Uttar Pradesh.

He said if the state government failed to initiate penal action against Rakesh Tikait and arrest him, the ABSBM activists would launch a nationwide campaign to expose him among the masses. Besides, he said, the ABSBM would also be compelled to initiate legal action against Tikait at its own level.

Dubey also demanded early settlement of the long-pending three demands of the Brahmin community.

These include declaration of Lord Parashuram birth anniversary as a public holiday; reinstatement of the old scholarship payment system for students and setting up a commission for Brahmin community as done in case of other communities.

## IHS head stresses on developing leadership skills

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR

Director of University Institute of Health Sciences at Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj University, Kanpur, Dr Pravin Katiyar, while addressing a seminar the occasion of Amrit Ka Mahotsav organised by the IMA-Kanpur, said the objective was to focus on leadership skills to help one understand one's motivations, emotions which made one more calm, thoughtful and effective.

The event also gave an opportunity to pay homage to all those who took part in the freedom movement.

He said there were many Indians who had contributed to the independence of India but unfortunately they remained unsung for various reasons thus this function was being organised in the 75th year of independence. He said the Indian Independence Movement was a great movement by various people from every nook and corner of the country and they sacrificed their blood and soul for the independence of their country.

He said there were numerous freedom fighters in India who had fought against the British rule. He said determination and perseverance had been the core of our principles in guiding us. He said an important learning from the freedom struggle was the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi on 'ahimsa' (non-violence). He said India during its freedom struggle had proved that the biggest challenges could be overcome by following the principle of ahimsa.

Dr Katiyar stressed on qualities like courage, non-violence, love, independent thinking, kind heartedness, honesty, humility, compassion, inspiration, empathy, and determination. He said children should also learn about the great sacrifices made by the freedom fighters for the country and this was how children could develop the spirit of patriotism.

He added the freedom struggle also made the youth realise that meticulous planning and organisation was the mantra to achieve success. He said the freedom struggle would not have been successful without the presence of strong leadership and at every stage of the struggle, the nation rose to the voice of leadership.

Prominent among those present were Dr Archana Bhadauria, Dr SK Nigam, Dr Garima Variani, Dr Hemlata Shukla, Dr Debjyoti Debrai and Dr Anurag Mehrotra.

## Young farmer drowns

KANPUR (PNS): A youth drowned in a pond in the Sachendi police station area late Monday evening.

According to reports, 26-year-old Lav Kush, son of Naraini Singh of Bhool village in Sachendi, had left the house on Monday evening on a tractor to plough the field. When he did not return home till late night, the family members went to the field and on not seeing him there they launched a search for him.

During the search they spotted the marks of the tractor's wheels on the ground near a pond between Dool and Bhool villages. They informed the police about this and the cops, with the help of divers, took out the body of the youth. The tractor of the deceased was also pulled out of the water.

The body was sent for autopsy.

**LABOURER CRUSHED TO DEATH** by dumper: A labourer was crushed to death by a dumper near Uttari police outpost in Bilhaur Kotwali police circle late Monday night.

The victim was identified as Sanjay alias Monu (25), son of Amrisha Batham of Uttari village. After the incident, the dumper driver disappeared from the spot. Family members and villagers recovered his body on Tuesday morning and informed the police which started an investigation in the matter. According to Sarvesh, brother of the deceased, Sanjay had gone out of the house to ease himself on Monday night. On Tuesday morning, the villagers found his body lying in a plot opposite the police outpost and informed the kin of the deceased.

# NCL to organise ICOMS from December 13

CORRESPONDENT ■ SONBHADRA



Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL), a Miniratna company of the Government of India (GoI), is organising the International Conference on Open Cast Mining Technology and Sustainability 'ICOMS 2021' for the fourth time in a row. This conference is being organised on December 13 and 14 in association with IIT, BHU, Varanasi, as a knowledge partner on the occasion of Energy Day. Currently the energy sector in India is dominated by coal, which is slowly being replaced by environment friendly green energy. This is the transitory stage and it is significant for the coal industry to reorient itself to remain relevant in the energy sector in a sustainable manner. This international conference will give thrust on ensuring nation's self-reliance in the energy sector through sustainable and eco-friendly coal mining where eminent academicians, scientists and coal stalwarts will share and docu-

ment their knowledge and insights through research papers, technical posters, exhibitions and deliberations. This conference will also foster to reorient the coal mining industry towards sustainability and green mining practices. The conference will be primarily focused on production, productivity and safety in opencast mining, environmentally sustainable methods, energy security, eco-friendly logistics infrastructure, social sustainability, renewable energy and clean coal technologies, advanced materials for energy etc. Henceforth, hundreds of research papers have been

received from country and abroad for ICOMS 2021 out of which the best selected research papers will be presented by the scientists, academicians and technical experts during the conference. During it NCL will also provide an exhibition platform to the small-scale industries and multinational companies to showcase their latest technologies, heavy machines, innovative and sustainable tools related to the mining sector. During this conference, Young Scientist Award and Budding Innovators Award will be conferred on for the best innovative ideas and unique business solutions related to coal sector.

# Sambalpur-Banaras Express to remain cancelled on Dec 8, 12

CORRESPONDENT ■ GORAKHPUR

Due to non-interlock work at Sambalpur and Hirkund stations located on Sambalpur-Titlagarh rail section of Sambalpur division of East Coast Railway (ECR) the cancellation of following trains will be done by the railway administration, Chief Public Relations Officer (CPRO) Pankaj Kumar Singh said said.

The 18311 Sambalpur-Banaras Express to run from Sambalpur on December 8 and 12 will remain cancelled.

Likewise, the 18312 Banaras-Sambalpur Express to run from Banaras on December 9 and 13 will remain cancelled.

## HOMAGE PAID

On the Mahaparinirvan Diwas of Bharat Ratna Baba Saheb Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar on Monday, General Manager (GM), North Eastern Railway (NER), Vinay Kumar Tripathi, Additional General Manager (AGM) Amit Kumar Agrawal, Senior Deputy General



Manager (SDGM) DK Singh, senior railway officer, Scheduled Castes and Tribes Association president and general secretary and other rail-

# Three children burnt alive

CORRESPONDENT ■ MIRZAPUR

In a heart-rending incident three kids of a family were burnt alive when straw caught fire in an area under Madihan police station on Monday evening. As per the reports received here, Subhavati, wife of Jitendra, a resident of Pachokhara Khurd village, was busy in the work of threshing of paddy and her children, Sunaina (7), Harshit (5) and Rani (3) were playing in the field. In between Harshit and Rani slept on the heap of straw. When Sunaina lit the fire for roasting some edible items the flames suddenly spread to the entire straw as a result of which the three children were burnt alive on the spot. On hearing the cries of Subhavati the locals rushed to the spot and somehow brought the flames under control but the children could not be saved. On coming to know about the tragic and untimely death of her children Subhavati was shell-shocked and inconsolable. On getting information Deputy Inspector General (DIG) RK Bharadvaj, Additional Superintendent of Police ASP (Operation) Mahesh Singh Atri and Circle Officer (CO) Madihan visited the spot. On the direction of the District Magistrate Praveen Kumar and sub-divisional magistrate (SDM) Chunar also visited the place and assured to provide all help without delay.

**VIDEO CONFERENCE:** To review progress in the construction of multi modal terminal, freight villages, ongoing projects under Ghazipur terminal and land purchase/acquisition, Principal Secretary (Transport) sought related information about national domestic waterway-1 through video conferencing with divi-



sional commissioners and the district magistrates of districts concerned on Monday. In video conferencing Vindhyachal Divisional Commissioner Yogeshwar Ram Mishra and Mirzapur DM Praveen Kumar Laxkar were present at NIC Mirzapur.

**'JAN SANVAD' PROGRAMME:** State vice president of BJP and MLC Arvind Sharma the said it was the need of the hour that we come forward to contribute to the nation because the present leadership was working in the direction of making the nation a superpower. These views were expressed by him in a 'Jan Sanvad' programme organised at AS Jubilee Inter College on Monday. Stressing on education as well as skill the BJP leader opined that solution to any problem is education. He opined that every problem has the solution if it was solved with conviction. About his visit to the district he said communication is the better way to find solutions so he was on the tour of the state to get a feedback from the ground level and suggest the government to do accordingly. While interacting with intellectuals on the occasion he exhorted to utilise their talent for the uplift of the

nation. The programme was chaired by former district president BJP Anil Singh, conducted by Rajendra Tiwari and vote of thanks was proposed by convener of the programme Padma Dev Dwivedi.

**CONDOLED:** A meeting of Kendriya Brahman Maha Sabha (KBMS) was organised at Pandit Guptaram Pandey Inter College recently to mourn the sudden demise of renowned astrologer of the district Saroj Shankar Pandey. Recalling his contribution Ashok Chaudhary said that calculation of Pandey that during seminars on astrology mesmerised the scholars. He said that through the different conferences he earned laurels for the district. President of KBMS Haushila Prasad Mishra said that his death was the irreparable loss to the society. The meeting concluded after observing a two minute silence as a mark of respect to the departed soul. Among those who paid tributes Pandey were Satish Chandra Agrawal, Jagdish Singh, Pankaj Pandey, Kameshwar Mishra, Lal Bhadur Singh. Uttar Pradesh Minister of State for Energy Rama Shankar Singh visited the residence of the deceased and consoled his family members.



# Sena: There is no alternative without Cong

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a dampener to TMC chief Mamata Banerjee effort to pro-up a non-Congress Opposition front to take on the BJP, the Shiv Sena on Monday said there can't be such alternative without the Congress.

Rajya Sabha member and Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut on Tuesday met former Congress president Rahul Gandhi. Sources said Raut discussed several issues with Rahul Gandhi, including Mamata Banerjee's move.

"There can be no front without the Congress. Even if there is a new alliance, an alliance will work under the leadership of Congress. There are many parties with the Congress. So why three - three front are required? What to do with so many fronts? In this way, we will not be able to give an alternative to BJP," Raut, who is also Sena's chief spokesperson, said.

The Congress sources said the Shiv Sena leader is likely to meet Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Wednesday and later he will also call on Congress chief Sonia Gandhi. Shiv Sena and Congress along with NCP is in a coalition Government in Maharashtra.

"There has been a long talk with Rahul Gandhi ji, the conversation that took place is political in nature. Everything is fine. But whatever discussion took place, it will be first conveyed to our leader Uddhav Thackeray ji. Only then we can say something in the media. But it is certain that Shiv Sena believes that there should be a united opposition," Raut said after meeting Rahul.



Raut said during the meeting with Rahul Gandhi, what TMC leader Mamata Banerjee said on the opposition was also discussed. "Rahul Gandhi is to visit Mumbai this month end and then a meeting with Uddhav Thackeray will be proposed," Raut said.

"There should be only one coalition of the Opposition, its effort should be made. I told Rahul ji that he should take the lead. There were talk on the coming elections also," Raut told media persons.

Raut also said their another coalition partner under the guidance of NCP supremo Sharad Pawar is making efforts for a common Opposition front and he will make best efforts to ease out the strained relationship between the Congress and the TMC.

While Mamata had directly attacked Congress in her statement after meeting Pawar in Mumbai last week that there is no UPA, Pawar played safe saying all are welcome in fight against the BJP.

Sharing that "an attempt is being made to convene a meeting of the opposition," Raut said, "I have requested Rahul Gandhi to take the initiative in this matter."

"The leadership of this front will be decided later," he further informed.

# No business in RS for 2nd day

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Rajya Sabha did not transact any significant business for the second consecutive day this week as Opposition parties continued their protest on Tuesday demanding the revocation of suspension of 12 MPs.

Holding the Government responsible for the deadlock, Opposition members said they will continue with their joint protests against the suspension of 12 MPs till the time it is revoked. While the Opposition members called for a full boycott of Parliament proceedings for a day on Wednesday, TRS announced that its MPs will boycott both houses of Parliament for the remainder of the Winter Session by accusing the Central Government of being "anti-farmer".

With Opposition members raising slogans, Parliamentary Affairs Minister

Prhalad Joshi said the treasury benches would also like the suspended MPs to participate in the proceedings of the House and they should apologise for their conduct so that their suspension could be revoked. He added, "If they apologise, the Government is ready to take them back immediately."

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya introduced The Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Bill 2021 and The Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill 2020 amid the din. In all, the House witnessed two adjournments before the final one for the day around 3.12 pm. As the House resumed proceedings at 3 pm, Deputy Chairman Harivansh asked Mandaviya to introduce the bills.

As Mandaviya introduced the Bills, repeated requests from Deputy Chairman Harivansh to maintain order went unheeded and the

Opposition members continued to raise slogans against the Government. With the Opposition unrelenting, the Deputy Chairman adjourned the House for the day.

Earlier in the day, Rajya Sabha chairman M Venkaiah Naidu said he has received a notice under the Rajya Sabha rule 267, that calls for setting aside the business of the day to take up the issue listed and is disallowing it. "Your notice is under rule 267. I have gone through it. I have not permitted (it)," Naidu told Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge.

Later in the day as the Opposition tried to raise their issues again, Deputy Chairman Harivansh said only the listed business will be allowed to be discussed and no other matter would be taken up. When he allowed Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge to speak, the latter took exception to Labour and Environment

Minister Bhupender Yadav's interruption, terming it "undemocratic", and compared it to the suspension of the 12 MPs.

Sanjay Singh of AAP and some other Congress members stormed the Well of the House twice. There was sloganeering by the members who were joined by TMC MPs. TMC MP Derek O'Brien was also not allowed to raise the matter of suspension of the MPs.

Addressing reporters outside Parliament, Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge alleged that the suspension is against rules and undemocratic. He said they will continue to protest in support of the suspended members and sit on a dharna with them and also urge Lok Sabha members to sit in support with them.

Besides Congress president Sonia Gandhi has convened a meeting of the Congress Parliamentary Party in



Opposition parties' MPs participate in a protest near Mahatma Gandhi's statue demanding revocation of the suspension of 12 Rajya Sabha members, during the Winter Session of Parliament, in New Delhi, on Tuesday PTI

Parliament on Wednesday to further deliberate on the winter session strategy. Former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi will also be in attendance. The party has been pressing for revoking the suspension of 12 Rajya Sabha MPs and the proceedings of the Upper House have been disrupted due to Opposition protests over the issue.

Accusing the Central

Government of being "anti-farmer", the TRS also announced that its MPs will boycott both Houses of Parliament for the remainder of the Winter Session. Shouting slogans against the Government and in support of farmers, TRS MPs staged a walkout from the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. All the MPs were dressed in black.

# IIT scientist, IMA predict severe 3rd wave

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Day after one of the creators of the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine warned that future pandemics could be even more lethal than Covid-19, an IIT scientist and top medical body, Indian Medical Association (IMA), echoed similar apprehensions as they predicted a severe third wave of the virus in India amid the threat posed by the Omicron variant which has infected two dozen people so far.

The IMA said taking precautionary measures is key to combating the challenge while IIT scientist, Manindra Agarwal predicted the third wave of coronavirus could hit the peak by February with cases likely to be reaching up to 1-1.5 lakh a day in the country.

Agarwal who is involved in the mathematical projection of trajectory of Covid-19, however said the third wave will be milder than the second wave. He said in the new forecast, the new Omicron variant has been factored in.

"With the new variant, our current forecast is that the country could see the third wave by February but it will be milder than the second wave. So far we have seen that the severity of Omicron is not like the one seen in the Delta variant," Agarwal told a news agency.

He, however, said a close eye is being kept on cases in South Africa where many cases of this variant have been recorded.

Agarwal added that as of now South Africa has not seen a rise in hospitalisation.

He said a fresh set of data on the virus and hospitalisations would help in getting a more solid picture.

"It looks like although the new variant has shown high transmissibility, its severity is

not like the one seen in the Delta variant," Agarwal said.

He said as observed during the spread of delta, a mild lockdown (night curfew, restrictions on crowding) can bring down beta substantially. That will significantly reduce the peak value, he added.

The IMA has warned about a severe third wave of Covid-19 in India and recommended taking precautionary measures as a key to combating the challenge

IMA's warning comes at a time when cases of Omicron have multiplied in the country in less than a week. It is said to be the most heavily mutated strain of the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2. Early data suggests it spreads fast but the illness may be mild.

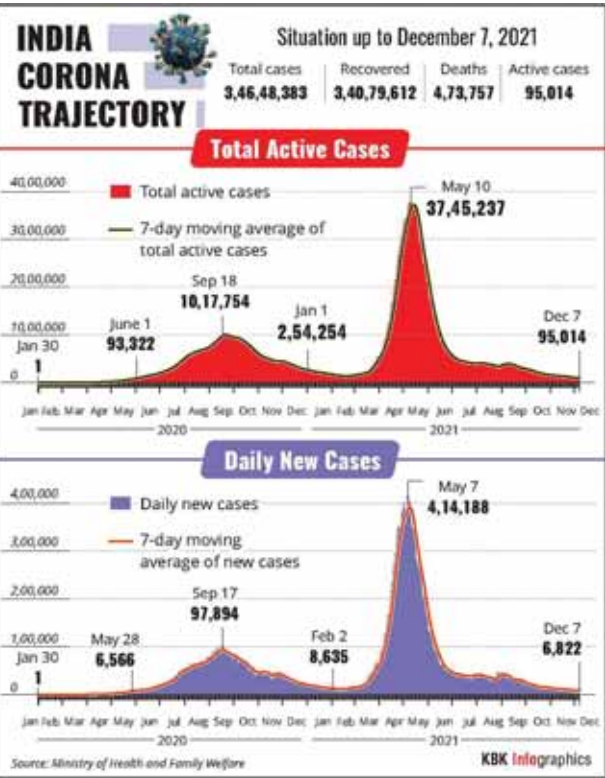
The IMA demanded the inoculation of people in the 12-18 age group — a proposal that has been pending for long. It further called for the adminis-

tration of booster doses to healthcare and frontline workers in view of the Omicron threat.

Omicron has some 50 mutations including over 30 in its spike protein alone. It was first reported from southern Africa where it is most prevalent. Scientists around the world are working to understand how effective existing vaccines & treatments are against the new strain.

Sarah Gilbert, one of the creators of the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine said in the Richard Dimpleby Lecture that future pandemics could be even more lethal than Covid-19 so the lessons learned from the outbreak must not be squandered and the world should ensure it is prepared for the next viral onslaught.

"This will not be the last time a virus threatens our lives and our livelihoods," according to a foreign news agency.



# Plasma therapy receives thumbs down from WHO

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Once much sought after treatment for patients suffering from Covid-19, convalescent plasma therapy has received thumbs down from the World Health Organization (WHO). The method of using the blood of people who have recovered from disease to heal others is known as convalescent plasma therapy.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in the United States has awarded emergency approval for convalescent

plasma therapy with high antibody levels to treat Covid-19 in 2020. It was supposed to be used for those who were unwell with Covid-19 and had an underlying health problem.

However, the WHO has now said current evidence shows that it does not improve survival or reduce the need for mechanical ventilation, they said.

Earlier this year, the use of convalescent plasma was removed from the Indian Council for Medical Research's recommended guidelines for Covid-19. Despite the fact that



an ICMR trial of 400 patients last year, known as the PLACID trial, found no significant benefit

from plasma therapy. The ICMR dropped the plasma therapy without citing any significant benefit for Covid-19 treatment.

The WHO also has now issued a statement that convalescent plasma therapy shows no improvement in survival and other important measures and is not recommended for patients infected with Covid-19.

Despite its original promise, recent research reveals that it does not increase survival or reduce the need for mechanical ventilation, and it is costly and time-consuming

to administer, according to a WHO Guideline Development Group of international specialists writing in The British Medical Journal (BMJ).

Except in the context of a randomised controlled experiment, the WHO strongly advises against using convalescent plasma in patients with non-severe disease and in patients with severe and critical illnesses (RCT). The guidelines are based on data from 16 trials, including 16,236 individuals with non-severe, severe, or critical Covid infection.

# ‘India among most unequal nations’

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India stands out as a poor and very unequal country, with the top 1 per cent of the population holding more than one-fifth of the total national income in 2021 and the bottom half just 13 per cent, according to a report.

The report, titled 'World Inequality Report 2022', has been authored by Lucas Chancel, co-director of the World Inequality Lab, and coordinated by several experts, including French economist Thomas Piketty.

It further said India is now among the most unequal countries in the world.

The report pointed out that the average national income of the Indian adult population is Rs 204,200. While the bottom 50 per cent earns Rs 53,610, the top 10 per cent earns more than 20 times (Rs 1,166,520).

"While the top 10 per cent and top 1 per cent hold respectively 57 per cent and 22 per cent of total national income, the bottom 50 per cent share has gone down to 13 per cent."

India stands out as a poor and very unequal country, with an affluent elite," it said.

According to the report, average household wealth in India stands at Rs 983,010.

It observed that the deregulation and liberalisation policies implemented since the mid-1980s have led to "one of the most extreme increases in income and wealth inequality observed in the world".

It also said gender inequal-

ities in India are very high. "The female labour income share is equal to 18 per cent. This is significantly lower than the average in Asia (21 per cent, excluding China)," the report said, adding that this value is one of the lowest in the world, slightly higher than the average share in Middle East (15 per cent).

The world map of inequalities reveals that national average income levels are poor predictors of inequality — among high-income countries, some are very unequal (such as the US), while other are relatively equal (Sweden). "The same is true among low- and middle-income countries, with some exhibiting extreme inequality (Brazil and India), somewhat high levels (China) and moderate to relatively low levels (Malaysia, Uruguay)," it said.

The report noted that income and wealth inequalities have been on the rise nearly everywhere since the 1980s, following a series of deregulation and liberalisation programs which took different forms in different countries.

"The rise has been non-uniform: certain countries have experienced spectacular increases in inequality (including the US, Russia and India) while others (European countries and China) have experienced relatively smaller rises," it said.

The report pointed out that in 2021, after three decades of trade and financial globalisation, global inequalities remain extremely pronounced.

# Decision on inoculation among kids, booster dose for adults postponed

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (NTAGI) has postponed the decision on inoculation of the Covid vaccine among children as well as booster dose for the adults, till next year.

A meeting was held on Monday to deliberate on an 'additional' dose of vaccine and inoculation of children.

During the meeting, the NTAGI, a Central Government's panel on vaccine immunisation said children The members of the group did not make the final recommendation on these issues as of now.

"The issue of administering an additional dose of Covid-19 to immunocompromised and immunosuppressed individuals and vaccination of children against Covid-19 were deliberated upon in the meeting of NTAGI," sources said, as per an agency.

Those who come under the immunocompromised and immunosuppressed categories are cancer patients on therapy, transplants patients and AIDS patients.

An additional dose of a vaccine is different from a booster dose. While a booster dose is given after a pre-defined period when the antibody levels are presumed to have declined since primary vacci-

nation, additional shot is given to immunocompromised and immunosuppressed individuals when the primary inoculation does not provide adequate protection from the disease.

Last week, Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya had told the Lok Sabha that a decision on booster doses and vaccines for kids would be taken on the basis of scientific advice and that the focus of the vaccination drive would be to expand the coverage of the second dose.

INSACOG, the country's top genome sequencing laboratories, on Saturday said more scientific experiments are required to assess the impact of a booster dose of Covid-19 vaccine.

# Sasikala calls on Rajinikanth

## Shunted ADMK Gen Secy says wanted to check on actor's health

PNS ■ KUMAR CHELLAPPAN

Tamil filmdom's reigning

superstar Rajinikanth and his wife Latha had a surprise visitor on Tuesday. V K Sasikala, who claims herself to be the general secretary of the AIADMK, dropped in at the house of Rajinikanth in Chennai's Poes Garden.

A statement released by Sasikala said that she called on Rajinikanth to enquire about his health and it was a courtesy visit. This is

Sasikala's first visit to Poes Garden since she returned to Chennai after serving a four year jail term in Bangalore in connection with the Disproportionate Asset Case. She was staying earlier in Veda Nilayam, the private bungalow owned by late Jayalalitha, in Poes Garden and Rajinikath was a neighbour.

Veda Nilayam was taken over by the Tamil Nadu Government during the tenure of Edappadi Palaniswamy as chief minister but the announcement that it would be converted into a memorial for Jayalalitha. But the Madras High Court in a verdict delivered last month had quashed the government decision and

ordered the transfer of the palatial house to Deepa and Deepak, niece and nephew of late Jayalalitha. The former chief minister died intestate and various courts in the State are hearing petitions filed by her relations pleading with the courts to declare them as her legal heirs.

Sasikala's visit to Rajinikanth is seen as a move by her to win friends and influence people, according to Kolahala Srenivaas. "On Monday, the AIADMK announced that O Panneerselvam and Edappadi Palaniswamy have been elected as the coordinator and joint coordinator respectively of the party, shutting the doors once and for ever at Sasikala," said Srenivaas, chief

editor of Kolahala TV.

"Sasikala is a closed chapter as far as the AIADMK is concerned. We do not have anything to do with her," said former minister D Jayakumar immediately after the announcement of the election of OPS and EPS duo as the leaders of the party. There are reports that some of the senior leaders in the AIADMK had demanded during the meeting held on Monday that Sasikala should be brought back to the party. Though Sasikala claims herself to be the AIADMK general secretary, she has not been allowed anywhere near the party headquarters making her the only party chief in the country who does not have an office of her own.

# Tri-Services' tactical drill held in Kashmir

PNS ■ JAMMU

Battle hardened troops of the Indian armed forces led by Air Force Gladiators squadron AH-64 E Tuesday conducted a tri-services tactical drill in the higher reaches of Kashmir valley demonstrating their capabilities to insert troops behind the enemy lines in an intense air defense and electronic warfare operating environment.

The complete drill was planned and executed by the Chinार Corps in the higher reaches of Kashmir Valley. Top brass of the Chinार corps witnessed the complete drill as it showcased their capabilities to carry out successful operations in high altitude areas incorpo-

rating all facets of cobtemporary and modern battlefields in synergy with Indian Air Force and Indian Navy.

Srinagar based Defence Spokesman Col Emron Musavi in a statement said, "the heli dropped task force operated in snow-clad regions at heights over 9000 feet. The Heli Borne task force included troops from Infantry, The Special Forces and the MARCOS from the Indian Navy.

The heli drop exercise included full transportation and armed helicopters from Indian Army and Indian Air Force including the Apaches attack helicopters. Aspects related to electronic warfare were also validated".



## Balancing act

Putin used the Indian soil to take a snipe at the US, putting it in a spot

The summit meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and visiting Russian President Vladimir Putin has tested India's ability to do a balancing act so as not to get caught between the brittle relationship between the US and Russia over Ukraine and the proposed Summit for Democracy. For the record, Modi and Putin reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing ties. Significantly, it was Putin's second visit outside Russia since the pandemic's outbreak, after he visited Geneva this June to meet US President Joe Biden. The New Delhi visit underlined Russia's importance to India as a provider of defence systems. Russia handles over half of all Indian arms imports, technology and joint production agreements. Russia has also agreed to lease a nuclear-powered submarine to India. The icing on the cake is Russia's long-range S-400 ground-to-air missile defence system which initially attracted the displeasure of the United States. It was expected at one time that despite the warm relations between the US and India, Washington might sanction India under CAATSA (Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act), which warns of sanctions for any country buying arms from Russia. That has not come to pass yet, but the fact remains that India looked to Russia, and not the US, for its defence needs. In the case of the nuclear-powered submarine, too, it looked to Russia. Interestingly, the AUKUS pact of September will allow Australia to become the first non-nuclear weapons



State to acquire a similar nuclear-powered submarine. Even as Modi and Putin vowed to cement their unique ties, New Delhi realised that Russia used Indian soil to take a snipe at the US. Its Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov recalled that the US tried to undermine Russia-India cooperation on the S-400 deal and tried to make India obey American orders. "We", Lavrov said, witnessed how the US tried to make India "to follow the American vision of how this region should be developed". It appears that Russia used Putin's visit to put the US in a spot by leaning more heavily than required on its friendship with India. That line of thinking is open to interpretation because the US has not followed up on the sanctions threat. After all, it understands the challenges India faces from its neighbours in the west and east. Also, the US and India have their association in the Indo-Pacific in the form of QUAD. Lavrov's statement, however, may have more to do with two areas of current friction between Russia and the US. One is the Russian troop movement near Ukraine's borders amid speculations of a conflict. Lavrov's remarks came just a day before the Biden-Putin virtual summit on the issue. The US has said it will send reinforcements to Nato's eastern flank if Russia invades Ukraine. The second issue is Biden's invite to 100-odd countries to his Summit of Democracy on December 9 and 10. Ukraine has been invited to the summit, but Russia stands excluded.



A view of the snow-covered Himalayan range, in Shimla

## Dam it!

Tamil Nadu's ban on *Dam 999* continues since 2011, and on a flimsy narrative

The DMK and its natural allies, the Communists, are always in the forefront to agitate against the violation of the right to free speech. But it is shocking that the Dravidian Government continues to ban a 2011 production, *Dam 999*. The movie, which bagged several national and international honours, was shortlisted for even the Oscars. However, the TN Government banned it citing law and order problems. Though bans were earlier imposed on certain films like *Vishwaroopam* and *Thuppakki* fearing reprisal from a minority community, the issues were resolved within days and those were released to a grand welcome. Meanwhile, the State Government's reason for banning the movie is ambiguous. "The film's story is woven around the Mullaperiyar Dam; the core issues are pending before the Supreme Court. If the ban is lifted, there may be widespread agitation and disruption of peace," states the November 22, 2021, order issued by the Additional Chief Secretary. Film's producer-director Sohan Roy says that there was nothing in *Dam 999* which could upset law and order in Tamil Nadu.

"The movie was released all over the world, except in Tamil Nadu, though we had hired many artists and technicians from that State for the project, including national award-winning designer Thotta Tharini. The film makes no reference to the Mullaperiyar Dam and the storyline was based on the bursting of the Banqiao Dam in China in 1975, which resulted in the death of 2.5 lakh people. I never had Mullaperiyar in my mind when I was shooting the movie," Roy adds. The ban is seen as the "true colours" of the Dravidians, according to noted author and film critic PK Sreenivasan. "History is repeating itself in Tamil Nadu. MG Ramachandran was thrown out of the DMK for questioning the party leadership's stance on a number of issues. We cannot expect anything different from them even now," Sreenivasan comments on the ban issue. The truth is that Tamil Nadu does not like to discuss the Mullaperiyar Dam. The term '999' evokes nervousness in the powers that be there since they know that the 999-year-long agreement is a fraud perpetrated on the people of Travancore by the then Madras Province. How an incident that reportedly happened in China could force the people of Tamil Nadu to violate law and order is anybody's guess. Dams should not be used for damning creativity!



# Propaganda around China's 'infallibility'

Under Xi Jinping's leadership, the seeds of Mao's manipulative propaganda tactics have mushroomed like never before in China

In the early days of 'helmsman' Mao Zedong's Chinese revolution, propaganda assumed a key role in shaping the Chinese optics, discourse and popular narrative. In 1958, the mouthpiece of the Chinese Communist Party, *People's Daily*, wrote: "...today, in the era of Mao Zedong, heaven is here on earth..." — ironically, this was also the year of the start of the Great Chinese Famine that has been regarded as amongst the greatest manmade disasters in human history, accounting for millions (estimates ranging from 15 to 55 million) deaths. The instinctive cover-up reaction of the Chinese officialdom entailed releasing propaganda posters of Chinese children standing atop surreal green fields of wheat so dense that they could hold their weight — the reality of the 'fields', actually made of deliberately transplanted stalks with a bench to hold the children, was hidden from the masses.

Today, in Xi Jinping's China, the seeds of Mao's manipulative propaganda tactics have mushroomed like never before, and the curation of the 'Chinese Dream' is a zealously guarded effort that brooks no contrarian viewpoint. Xi's barely concealed and insidious efforts to "tell China's story well" comes packaged with the usual spirit of defensive and reactive censorship, heavily massaged headlines, deflections to even outright buying out international opinions eg, *South China Morning Post*. Awkward subjects like the ensuing dissonance in Hong Kong, Xinjiang, Tibet or the Dalai Lama remain subject to editorial manicuring with the requisite smoke-and-mirrors to ensure that the domestic audience does not get 'brainwashed' to what Xi calls "western values of journalism". An important aspect of this control phenomenon is to define the so-called redlines that necessitates the continuing maintenance of the official charade of the Communist Party's supremacy, infallibility and perfection — anyone questioning the same risks immediate threat or, in Chinese context, mysterious disappearances.

Last year, flamboyant Chinese entrepreneur Jack Ma, at



the cusp of the world's largest public offering of his company ie The Ant Group (a flourishing empire including the Alibaba, then valued at well over \$1 trillion), was subjected to a reality check of overstepping the mandated redlines (in this case, criticising Chinese regulatory policies) in Xi's hypersensitive China, and soon disappeared. Since then, Ja Ma has gone under the radar with patchy, dubiously organised and sanitised public appearances, that are typical of China's treatment of anyone blowing the lid off the official narrative. Many others like award-winning photographer Lu Guang, businesswoman Duan Weihong, actress Zhao Wei, artist and activist Ai Weiwei, real estate tycoon Ren Zhiqiang — all followed the patented route of inexplicable 'disappearances'. No criticism of the leader, party or its policies is ever tolerated.

Now, the hardly curious case of former No 1 women's tennis doubles player, Peng Shuai, follows the exact same path. Her crime: Calling out the bluff of so-called discipline, propriety and morality within the top ranks of the CCP by accusing former Chinese Vice-Premier Zhang Gaoli of sexual assault. Expectedly, Chinese social media platform Weibo took down Peng Shuai's post and discussions about her



THIS IS THE THIN ICE ON WHICH THE CHINESE SOCIETY, GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY IS PREDICATED; XI JINPING KNOWS THIS, AND THEREFORE AMONG HIS PREDECESSORS, HE PREFERS MAO ZEDONG'S HARD PROPAGANDA APPROACH

sudden disappearance were heavily censored within the controlled realm of Chinese media, and her physical whereabouts remained unconvincingly scanty. Following a concerted effort by the World Tennis Association (WTA), the Chinese Tennis Association issued perfunctory assurances that Peng Shuai was safe and "not under any physical threat". In a throwback to Ja Ma's carefully calibrated 'reappearances' that raised a lot more questions than it addressed, Peng Shuai too has started making what is increasingly getting dubbed as 'hostage videos'. For an internationally active player, there has been an inexplicable curb on access and ability to reach out to her with strangely incommunicado and stage-managed 'sightings', dished out as means of meaningless reassurances of normalcy. Unfortunately, and embarrassingly so for the Chinese, the WTA Tour has suspended its tournaments in China and upped the ante, exactly what the Chinese were seeking to avoid, in their quest to suppress the truth and the accompanying outcry. Crucially, this specific disappearance (unlike countless others) could further sully the Chinese perceptions, weak as they are in the COVID era, to derail the Winter Olympics which are due in a

couple of months.

It's not so much about defending Gaoli's personal reputation (who too remains away from public gaze) as much as it is about defending the linear mirage of the 'Chinese Dream' (read, Party's governing capacity and infallibility) and of, therefore, avoiding the dangerous precedent of 'questioning' any of its imperatives. The *People's Daily*, which noted the 'heaven on earth' analogy in 1958, launched its English daily tabloid, *Global Times*, in 2009 with the same level of propagandistic enthusiasm — so it noted WTA's action as "pursuit of political correctness", "forcing her to comply in accordance with the imagination and expectations of Western public opinion" and as "politicisation of sports", all the while remaining deflective on the specifics of Peng Shuai's disappearance. This is the thin ice on which the Chinese society, governance and sustainability is predicated; Xi Jinping knows this, and therefore among his predecessors, he prefers Mao Zedong's hard propaganda approach to the relatively reformist approach of Deng Xiaoping.

(The writer, a military veteran, is a former Lt Governor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry. The views expressed are personal.)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### THE PANDEMIC IS PERHAPS INVINCIBLE

Sir — No country, no community, no individual is safe until everyone across the world is safe. The emergence of a new Coronavirus variant has once again brought the spotlight on how unprecedented the pandemic is and how precarious the situation we're all in. We may have come to think that the pandemic is over, but the virus is still with us. As we speak, scientists across the world are scrambling to gather more data on the Omicron variant to understand how dangerous it is in terms of transmission and severity, and whether the currently available vaccines will be effective against it. The World Health Organisation has designated Omicron — the B.1.1.529 lineage of Sars-Cov-2 — as a variant of concern, leading to fears of another global surge in cases.

Dozens of countries have imposed travel bans from South African nations, where the Omicron variant was first identified. Others have imposed stricter measures to curb the spread of the Omicron variant. As on date, at least 38 countries have confirmed Omicron cases. Meanwhile, a number of countries have started booster vaccinations as a preventive measure against the new strain. But the question is: As long as vaccine inequity is not addressed, can the world think of defeating the Coronavirus pandemic and restoring normalcy?

Gautam SR | Bhopal

### KEEP YOUR FRIENDS CLOSE

Sir — Russian President Vladimir Putin's India visit should bolster bilateral ties between the two countries. Foreign policy is a matter of costs and benefits; no two nations are permanent foes. New Delhi, of course, is not on a slippery slope as far as its military and trade ties with Moscow are concerned. An old and traditional connection cannot go haywire just like that, and that was exemplified in no uncertain terms by Putin's India visit. The 2+2 meeting between the defence and foreign ministers of both the countries was held in a conducive atmosphere. India holds 2+2 ministerial meetings with

## Numbers make all the noise



Despite climbing to the third position in the list of most wicket-takers in Test cricket in India and leading the team to victory innumerable times, Ravichandran Ashwin continues to be criticised and compared. He has done remarkably well as an off-spinner for Indian cricket time and again. Whether it is ODI, T20 or Test cricket, Ashwin adjusts as per the format and situation on ground and plays a pivotal role.

He has won the 'Man of the Series' award nine times in his illustrious career. He stands up to the challenge when the chips are down and can perform with the bat as well.

Ashwin came, saw and conquered the cricketing field with a purpose. Ironically, the last wicket of New Zealand cricketer Henry Nicholls was taken by the ace spinner to hasten the end of Kiwi innings in the two match Test series. Ashwin has reached a historic milestone in test cricket. The off-spinner went past Anil Kumble and Harbhajan Singh in taking 50 wickets in a calendar year for the most number of times. Ashwin is a star spinner and instead of criticising him or comparing his bowling figures with other bowlers, we should remember the times he held the fort and saved the day for Team India.

CK Subramaniam | Mumbai

the United States, Japan and Australia and, thus, Russia became the fourth country to be accorded that importance. President Putin hailing India as a "great power" should do wonders for healthy bilateral relations.

Military, space, power, energy and infrastructure sectors between India and Russia are all set to be further expanded in the aftermath of President Putin's short but crucial visit. Interpersonal relations between the two have always been above board. There is nothing unusual in differences of opinion between the two friends. Putin kept away from the G20 and rescheduled his Beijing visit amid the pandemic; but kept his word on attending the summit in India. New Delhi, therefore, has to engage Russia on a personal level keeping with its dehyphenation policy on international relations.

Ganapathi Bhat | Akola

### THE BJP SHOULD LEARN TO BE HUMBLE

Sir — There is little doubt that the repeal of the three contentious farm laws that were hastily passed in September last year is a victory for the farming community,

and the triumph justly connotes the popular saying, "Farmers are the backbone of the Indian economy." However, the about turn made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is nothing but a sheer political opportunism with an eye on the forth-coming assembly elections in the key States of UP, Punjab and Uttarakhand, and as well in the wake of the BJP's recent dismal performance in bypolls.

The rollback of the farm laws shows how politically difficult it will be for India to overhaul a sector that supports about 60 per cent of the country's population. The farmers' victory is a tribute to their unprecedented struggle that it not only withstood the multi-fanged State repression, but, in fact, increased its defiant resistance massively for a year. The ruling BJP must have learnt a hard-hitting lesson that a community, which is strongly united for a cause, can never be defeated.

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

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

## SOUND BITE

There is no need to panic. I request you all to maintain social distancing and wear masks.



Delhi Chief Minister —Arvind Kejriwal



Right now, the drug companies have set the prices at whatever the market will bear.

US President —Joe Biden



Actor —Arshad Warsi



As I have said earlier and saying it again, Virat Kohli is the best Test captain India has ever had.

Former Indian cricketer —Irfan Pathan



SP chief —Akhilesh Yadav



FIRST COLUMN

WTO AND COMMON IP FOR COVID VACCINES

Dissent persists on whether a waiver is answer to shortage and inequitable distribution of vaccines



The WTO's 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12), scheduled to be held in Geneva, stands postponed again because of the outbreak of the Omicron Coronavirus variant. At MC12, whenever it is now held, ministers will be reviewing the functioning of the multilateral trading system, delivering prepared statements, and taking action on the WTO's future work programme. As is known, the Doha Development Round, launched in 2001, has had a very rocky journey with a low level of achievement. Its main success was the adoption of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation at MC9 in 2013. There is, therefore, considerable pressure for a successful outcome at MC12 at a formal meeting of the Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) on November 18. WTO members agreed to keep actively engaging up until the WTO's MC12 in order to find a common intellectual property (IP) response to Covid-19. Members adopted the oral




status report of the TRIPS council The text provides a factual overview of discussions held at the Council since October 2020, on the proposal by India and South Africa requesting a waiver from certain provisions of the TRIPS Agreement for the prevention, containment and treatment of COVID-19 and the proposal by the European Union for a draft General Council declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health in the circumstances of a pandemic. On the waiver request, the report indicates that disagreement persists on the fundamental question of whether a waiver is the appropriate and most effective way to address the shortage and inequitable distribution of, and access to, vaccines and other COVID-19-related products. The role of IP in the context of the pandemic has become the centre of attention in the run-up to MC12, and a pragmatic and tangible outcome of these discussions would be a strong and positive signal to the Ministerial Conference and the global community as a whole. The chair of the WTO's agriculture negotiations, Ambassador Gloria Abraham Peralta, told heads of delegations at a meeting on 15 November that she plans to circulate a revised draft negotiation text as soon as possible. The first draft negotiation text was introduced on July 29, with the chair proposing suggestions for a possible agriculture package at MC12. The text encompasses the seven main negotiation topics — domestic support, market access, export restrictions, export competition, cotton, public stockholding for food security purposes (PSH) and a special safeguard mechanism (SSM) as well as cross-cutting transparency issues. The chair emphasized the draft was based on members' discussions as well as her consultations in various configurations and served as a starting point for the final text-based negotiation phase before MC12. The chair also reported to WTO members on the state of play in the negotiations. She said the most recent consultations have focused on engaging members to find convergences on three primary issues: domestic support, public stockholding for food security purposes and, to a lesser extent, market access. Other members reaffirmed that a meaningful MC12 outcome on agriculture will address the compelling issue of food and livelihood security in light of the pandemic and commit members to continuing agricultural reform to make the agriculture trading system fit for purpose. Singapore presented a paper outlining its responses to the questions posed by India regarding an initiative that calls for exempting the World Food Programme's humanitarian food purchases from any export restriction. The initiative has gained wide support from most members and was described by many as a "low-hanging fruit" for MC12.

(The writer is former senior professor, international trade and member, Vivekananda International Foundation. The views expressed are personal.)

# The Congress faces a host of challenges before 2024

## All Opposition parties might be willing to unite under Sonia Gandhi's leadership; however, they have reservations against Rahul Gandhi



KALYANI **SHANKAR**

Will Congress perish as West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee and others believe? Even in the past, many predicted the end of Congress, but it survived many onslaughts. The latest was in 1998 when Sonia Gandhi emerged, Sphinx-like, to revive it and rule from 2004-2014. The 19th Lok Sabha results gave Congress 12 crore votes, though seat-wise it got only 52. Even in its second successive defeat in 2019, the party retained a solid block of 20 percent votes. The Gandhi family is complacent, believing that the voters will get disenchanted sooner than later and return to the Grand Old Party. No doubt they live in a fool's paradise as there is an urgent need to revive the

party. Undoubtedly, Congress faces a leadership crisis and challenges from many sides. The first is to quell the internal indiscipline and revolt. The group of 23 led by Ghulam Nabi Azad is an example and this disenchantment is prevalent in almost all states. The second comes from within the Opposition bloc. Of late, West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee's attack, backed by the wily NCP chief Sharad Pawar, has intensified. Now that Mamata has decided to bid for the Prime Minister's post in 2024, she is trying to edge out Congress from the opposition bloc. As a first step, Banerjee is preparing to broad-base her party and also gain pan-national recognition. Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Himachal Pradesh, and West Bengal, where it ruled in the past, Congress won only 10 out of 286 seats. The party has no representation from 20 states. Further, BJP has taken over the opposition space in Odisha, Tripura, and West Bengal, where Congress was traditionally the main opposition. Also, the regional parties continue to put up a much better fight than Congress. So, what are the options for the party now that there are cracks within the opposition? The first is to think of a long-term strategy and start preparing for 2024. Mamata is



The third is the shrinking Congress party in many states and even regions. Congress should now aim to build upon the 12-crore voter base instead of embroiling itself in self-made controversies. Of the 186 direct fights between BJP and Congress in 2019, the former won 170 seats, amounting to a 91.4 percent strike rate. It bagged 162 of these seats in the 2014 elections. The Congress, which won 24 of these seats in 2014, has come down to 15. In Uttar Pradesh,

doing precisely that. Congress is involved in short-term quick-fix solutions, often messing up the party's chances as they did in Punjab recently. But before that, the party needs to resolve its leadership crisis, which has been going on since August 2019. The second is that the party needs enormous resources and committed booth committees to compete with BJP. Once these two are addressed, the other things are more manageable. The third is to find ways of uniting the opposition. Sonia Gandhi has the stature to do this as almost all opposition parties might be willing to unite under her leadership, but they have reservations against Rahul Gandhi. If necessary, the Gandhi family

should pave the way for some other leader. The regional leaders realize that though they could contain BJP in their states, they do not have a pan-national presence. Even today, therefore, they need a party like Congress; every village has a congressman. Last Sunday, Shiv Sena mouthpiece *Saamna*, in its editorial, said that pushing the grand old party away from national politics and creating an Opposition grouping parallel to the UPA (United Progressive Alliance) would only strengthen BJP and "fascist" forces. Though Mamata tried to woo the Sena during her recent visit, Sena does not want to lose its government because Congress is its coalition partner in Maharashtra. Rahul Gandhi has been in politics since 2004, but he is not yet accepted as the opposition face. Rahul's efforts to befriend second-generation leaders like Akhilesh Yadav have not succeeded. He needs an image makeover. The fourth and more complex option is to give a call to all those leaders who had left Congress to come back. This idea springs up on and off. Congress has been the parent of many ruling parties like the NCP, TMC, YSRCP. There have been suggestions that such a united party could function under a presidium and collective leadership. But the parent party is hesitant to take such a plunge. A united Congress, than a divided opposition, is a more formidable opponent to BJP.

# Colonial outlook can't fix climate issues now

Singling out coal won't serve the purpose. India's argument that other fossil fuels used by the rich nations are equally responsible for emissions is logical



ASHWANI **MAHAJAN**

Recently the United Nations Environment Conference 'COP 26' concluded in Glasgow, UK. India was praised at this conference, for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Panchamrit" commitment for safe environment. Today's environmental crisis is actually linked to the existence of humanity. The devastation caused by the changing climate is now affecting the common man all over the globe.

Cloudbursts in the Himalayan region of Uttarakhand, excessively low rainfall in some regions and excessive rainfall in some others, and resulting droughts and floods, and causing diseases and resulting in climate change inducing natural calamities, all are impacting lives in the country today. Globally, life on small islands is endangered due to rising sea levels. Environmental hazards are also becoming the cause of large-scale displacement. If we do not rise to the occasion, this earth will not remain a habitable place in the next few decades.

In view of this concern, environmental conferences are being organized under the auspices of the United Nations annually since 1994. These conferences are also called 'United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change'. At the Environment Conference held in Kyoto, Japan a treaty was signed, known as the 'Kyoto Protocol', (with amendments in Doha's Environment Conference in 2012), according to which countries announced targets to reduce their emissions of greenhouse gases. The 'Kyoto Protocol' was the last such agreement in which developed countries accepted their responsibility to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases emissions; and the less developed and developing countries were exempted from the responsibility of reducing the emission of these gases for some time.

After the 2015 Paris's Environment Conference, India, with a liberal change in its earlier stance, unilaterally pledged to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and made it clear that India would not only live up to its ambitions but also raise the same. But India had also made it clear that developed countries should desist from blaming India for environmental degradation or global warming. The reality is that if seen from the historical perspective, today the world is suffering the consequences of what happened in the last 100 years. Whereas the United States is responsible for 40 per cent of greenhouse gases emissions, Europe's and China's contribution is 10 per cent and 28 per cent respectively, India is responsible for merely three per cent for these emissions.

India had said that while the rich countries are responsible for a major part of the emissions, they had not lived up to their promise, made in Copenhagen, to provide \$100 billion to the developing and least-developed countries to deal with the



THE NEED OF THE HOUR IS THAT IF THE EARTH IS TO BE KEPT HABITABLE, THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES HAVE TO MAKE AVAILABLE THEIR RESOURCES AND TECHNOLOGY FOR IT. THEY WILL HAVE TO COME OUT OF THEIR COLONIAL MINDSET THAT THEY ARE THE RULERS OF THE WORLD AND CAN DO ANYTHING THEY DESIRE

(The writer is a Professor in PGDAV College, University of Delhi. The views expressed are personal.)



environmental crisis. Moreover, given the magnitude of the problem and the efforts needed to deal with the same, even \$1 trillion may fall short of the requirement. Unfortunately, there is no reference to the commitment of \$100 billion in COP26's final document. Rather, all efforts are being made to put the blame on India for the environmental crisis due to over usage of coal. In the draft of the final document of the Environment Conference of Glasgow (UK), the rich countries included the condition to phase out of coal in the draft declaration, and when India refused to accept the same, a campaign was started in the western media to defame India that it is becoming an obstacle in the way to solution of environmental crisis.

Whereas the media in the west is trying to portray India as the villain of the environmental crisis for not accepting the condition to phase out coal usage in the final document, countries like the US, Europe and China, who are main culprits, are nowhere close to being held responsible. We need to understand that singling out coal will not serve the purpose. India's argument that other fossil fuels like petroleum and gas are equally responsible for emissions is a logical one. However, since the US and Europe have an advantage in

using them (petroleum and gas), there is no mention of reducing emissions from these fossil fuels in the final document, which is downright unfair.

Today, when the developed countries are calling India a hindrance to the environmental treaty, they have to introspect and realize that the reason for the present environmental crisis is the uncontrolled consumption by those countries, which is reflected in the fact that the US and Europe alone — where only 14 per cent of the total world's population lives — account for 50 per cent of the greenhouse gas emissions in the last 100 years.

Not only this, even today the per capita emission of greenhouse gases in India is only 1.77 metric tons, while in America it is 14.24 metric tons and in England it is 4.85 metric tons, and in China also the per capita emission of greenhouse gases is 7.41 metric tons. The main reason for excessive greenhouse gas emissions in developed countries is wasteful and irresponsible consumption, which is due to their lifestyle. Developed countries today are not ready to concede that the present environmental crisis is due to their stubbornness to not change their lifestyle. The people of these countries and their leadership will have to realize that they have to control

their consumption to overcome the current environmental crisis. Whether it is the goal of not allowing the world's temperature to rise more than 1.5 degrees from the pre-industrial level, or the reduction in smoke, the only solution is the control of consumption, for which the developed countries have the main responsibility.

Apart from this, the efforts made by developing countries and underdeveloped countries like India to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases and global warming will require the use of technology. This technology is available mainly with the developed countries, which they want to share only for a hefty price. On the other hand, developing and underdeveloped countries will have to increase the use of renewable energy such as solar energy, wind energy, etc., for which they will need more investment and technology. The need of the hour is that if the earth is to be kept habitable, the developed countries have to make available their resources and technology for it, rich countries will have to come out of their colonial mindset, that they are the rulers of the world and can do anything they desire. It should not be forgotten that heat emanating from global warming will not spare even these rich countries.

## POINTCOUNTERPOINT

WE WILL SOON WRITE TO THE CENTRE AND MEET THE UNION HOME MINISTER, URGING TO OPEN TRADE WITH NEIGHBOURING PAKISTAN.  
—PUNJAB CHIEF MINISTER  
**CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI**





THE NEIGHBOURING NATION SHOULD FIRST STOP KILLING INDIAN SOLDIERS, THEN WE WILL TALK ABOUT TRADE.  
—FORMER PUNJAB CHIEF MINISTER  
**CAPT AMARINDER SINGH**

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



TRAI TO TELCOS

# Allow port out SMS facility irrespective of tariff offer

**New Delhi:** Sector regulator TRAI on Tuesday directed telecom operators to "immediately" enable port out SMS facility for all mobile users requiring it, irrespective of value of their tariff offer, vouchers, or plans.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) took a strong note of telecom service companies not providing outgoing SMS facility in certain pre-paid vouchers.

TRAI said in the recent past it has received complaints from subscribers over their inability to send SMS on short code 1,900 specified for UPC (Unique Porting Code) generation, for availing mobile number portability facility despite having sufficient balance in their pre-paid accounts. "Now therefore the authority...Directs all access

service providers to enable, with immediate effect, for all mobile subscribers, both prepaid and postpaid, requesting for a unique porting code, the facility to send SMS on short code 1900, in order to exercise their right to avail porting facility in accordance with the Telecommunication Mobile Number Portability Regulations, 2009...Irrespective of the value of the tariff offer/vouchers," TRAI said in its direction.

The regulator said that the practice of non-provision of the facility of sending MNP related SMS in certain pre paid vouchers/plans is a "contravention" of the provisions of regulations "as it takes away the consumers' right, provided for in the regulations to avail mobile number portability (MNP) facility". **PTI**

# Sensex surges 887 pts amid global rebound as Omicron fears wane

**Mumbai:** Market benchmarks made an emphatic comeback on Tuesday after a two-session selloff, in tandem with a recovery in global equities as worries over the Omicron variant receded.

According to experts, world markets heaved a sigh of relief after initial studies showed that even though the Omicron strain of COVID-19 is fast spreading, it is largely milder than the Delta variant. Bargain hunting in metal and banking stocks, coupled with a modest recovery in the rupee, further boosted domestic indices.

The 30-share BSE Sensex rallied 886.51 points or 1.56 per cent to finish at 57,633.65. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty jumped 264.45 points or 1.56 per cent to 17,176.70.

Tata Steel was the top gainer in the Sensex pack, advancing 3.63 per cent, followed by Axis Bank, ICICI Bank, Kotak Bank, SBI, Titan and Bajaj Finance.

Asian Paints was the sole laggard, dipping 0.22 per cent.

"Domestic bourses staged a recovery... Supported by broad-based buying while healthcare stocks lost ground.

## Rupee surrenders gains to end flat as rising crude prices weigh

**Mumbai:** The rupee erased all its intra-session gains to end on a flat note at 75.44 against the US dollar on Tuesday as investors took note of rising crude oil prices and sustained foreign capital outflows.

However, a sharp rebound in domestic equities improved investor sentiment, helping in restricting rupee slide.

At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened strong at 75.31 against the greenback and witnessed an intra-day high of 75.26 and a low of 75.49 during the day's trade. It finally ended at 75.44 a dollar against the previous close of 75.45 – up 1 paise against the greenback.

Global markets traded with optimism on reports that the Omicron strain may not be as severe as expected.

## Gold rises ₹58; silver gains ₹175

**New Delhi:** Gold prices rose by ₹58 to ₹47,039 per 10 grams in the national capital on Tuesday in line with gains in the precious metal in global markets, according to HDFC Securities.

In the previous trade, the precious metal settled at ₹46,981 per 10 gram.

Silver also jumped ₹175 to ₹60,362 per kg from ₹60,187 per kg in the previous trade.

In the international market, gold was trading with gains at USD 1,781 per ounce and silver was flat at USD 22.42 per ounce. "Gold prices traded firm with spot gold prices at COMEX trading up at USD 1,781 per ounce on Tuesday," according to HDFC Securities, Senior Analyst (Commodities), Tapan Patel. **PTI**

# PLI scheme in food processing to go a long way in creating large scale capacity: FMCG cos

**New Delhi:** FMCG majors Nestle India, Parle, Dabur and Britannia on Tuesday said the PLI scheme in food processing will go a long way in creating large scale capacity, creating great Indian brands in international markets besides helping farmers here in the country.

With the government approving their applications for the production linked incentive (PLI) scheme in food processing, the companies said it will also play a key role in promoting job creation.

"The incentive will go a long way in terms of creating large scale capacities. It will help companies, not only, to manufacture on a large scale, have better machinery and plants, and have good products in India, but also be globally competitive and create great Indian brands and international markets," Parle Agro Products Pvt Ltd Senior

Category Head Mayank Shah told PTI.

Welcoming the government's step, he said the scheme will also help in terms of "shoring up of volumes for companies and better competitiveness in global markets", besides helping in job creation.

Expressing similar views, Dabur India Ltd CEO Mohit Malhotra said, "The PLI scheme has been crafted to promote domestic manufacturing and would lead to creation of large-scale manufacturing capacity besides promoting job creation in a critical sector like food processing." Likewise, a Britannia Industries spokesperson said, "We firmly believe that this initiative would kick start in a big way, investments and employment generation in the country,"

Thanking the government for approval of its PLI scheme application for processed fruits

and vegetables, Nestlé India said it has "always believed that the PLI scheme for the food processing sector will help farmers and the food processing industries".

It is overall a good step for an industry that has one of the better ratios of capital investment and employment generation, the company said.

The food processing ministry on Monday had said it has approved 60 applications of investment proposals by packaged food companies, including Amul, ITC, HUL, Britannia Industries, Parle, Agro, Tata Consumer Products and Nestle India seeking benefits under the PLI scheme.

In March this year, the government had approved a production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for the food processing sector, entailing an outlay of Rs 10,900 crore. **PTI**

# Various measures taken to protect bona fide commercial decision of banks: FM

**New Delhi:** The Government has taken various measures to protect bona fide commercial decisions of banks to alleviate the fear of any unwarranted hardships to officials or senior executives taking key decisions, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Tuesday in the Rajya Sabha. These include amendments to Prevention of Corruption Act (PC Act), 1988, requiring prior permission before initiating investigation against a public servant, setting up of Advisory Board for Banking and

Financial Frauds (ABBBF) for first level of examination of suspected frauds of banks and financial institutions in excess of ₹50 crore, finalisation of Consolidated Staff Accountability Framework etc, she said. The Government, in consultation with Central Vigilance Commission, has recently finalised a consolidated Staff Accountability Framework for non-performing assets (NPAs) accounts up to ₹50 crore, other than fraud cases, she said. **PTI**

## ₹2,000 notes now 1.75% of total banknotes in circulation; down from 3.27% in March 2018

**New Delhi:** The number of ₹2,000 currency notes in circulation has decreased to 223.3 crore pieces or 1.75 per cent of total notes in circulation (NIC) in November this year, compared to 336.3 crore pieces in March 2018. Printing of banknotes of

particular denomination is decided by the Government in consultation with the Reserve Bank to maintain desired denomination mix for facilitating transaction demand of public, said Pankaj Chaudhary, Minister of State in Finance Ministry, in a

written reply in the Rajya Sabha.

"As against 3,363 million pieces (mpcs) of ₹2,000 denomination banknotes in circulation on March 31, 2018 constituting 3.27 per cent and 37.26 per cent of NIC in terms of volume and value respectively; 2,233 mpcs

were in circulation on November 26, 2021, constituting 1.75 per cent and 15.11 per cent of NIC in terms of volume and value, respectively," he said.

Chaudhary further said that no fresh indent has been placed with currency printing presses for

the banknote from 2018-19 onwards.

"The decrease in circulation of Rs 2,000 note issued after demonetisation is because no fresh indent has been placed for printing of these notes from 2018-19 onwards. **PTI**

### NIFTY 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	17044.10	17210.65	16987.75	17156.10	243.85
HINDALCO	427.40	441.50	425.20	439.75	18.40
ICICIBANK	717.00	737.25	712.00	734.70	25.15
KOTAKBANK	1912.00	1963.80	1910.20	1945.95	60.75
ADANIPORTS	728.00	749.90	725.80	745.60	22.15
AXISBANK	672.00	684.40	670.00	681.90	18.80
BAJFINANCE	7048.00	7149.90	6958.00	7136.10	184.35
TATATEEL	1121.00	1144.95	1121.00	1137.95	29.15
MARUTI	7129.00	7249.00	7091.20	7220.10	177.25
SBN	469.20	477.40	469.40	475.10	9.80
HDPC	2795.00	2838.05	2769.45	2821.05	52.25
ONGC	145.00	146.20	144.50	146.00	2.65
HOMOTOCO	2435.00	2475.00	2430.10	2463.20	43.20
TATAMOTORS	476.85	477.40	471.00	475.30	8.30
POWERGRID	202.60	206.40	202.15	205.60	3.60
NESTLEIND	19226.00	19346.00	18976.00	19327.10	310.60
BAJAJFINSV	17140.00	17214.00	16931.70	17129.40	235.95
HDPCBANK	1513.95	1529.45	1509.90	1523.70	19.90
BAJAJ-AUTO	3284.95	3317.00	3230.00	3290.25	42.30
ULTRACEMCO	7285.00	7320.00	7235.00	7304.45	89.85
JSWSTEEL	648.95	662.35	647.15	650.85	8.00
TATACONSUM	758.35	758.35	748.00	756.85	9.25
ITC	218.90	221.25	218.10	220.25	2.65
TITAN	2336.50	2363.20	2325.35	2353.50	28.20
COALINDIA	159.10	159.85	149.15	150.25	1.70
SHREECEM	25690.30	25943.85	25613.10	25893.70	281.35
TCS	3562.50	3585.00	3524.30	3575.20	38.80
TECHM	1564.00	1572.45	1536.00	1567.65	15.90
ECHERMOT	2455.10	2488.75	2441.20	2469.00	24.90
BPCIL	385.90	388.75	385.25	387.30	3.85
GRASIM	1667.00	1687.00	1667.00	1677.00	16.25
ULTRATEL	720.00	727.00	717.00	723.25	6.70
INDUSINDBK	922.90	936.50	920.80	924.20	8.55
RELIANCE	2376.15	2404.00	2360.00	2384.55	21.95
NTPC	125.10	126.40	124.00	125.50	1.15
HINDUNILVR	2327.90	2338.60	2312.00	2327.65	21.15
HDCLIFE	688.00	696.20	688.85	690.15	5.95
IT	1790.20	1802.45	1772.10	1795.10	12.45
INFY	1170.10	1171.00	1094.00	1107.25	11.95
HCTECH	1150.00	1150.00	1131.40	1144.30	7.75
WIPRO	628.00	631.70	623.00	628.70	4.20
SUNPHARMA	741.10	748.50	735.00	741.35	4.20
SBIIFE	1157.00	1157.00	1139.00	1153.50	5.40
IOC	121.80	123.35	120.65	121.20	0.55
M&M	826.50	833.65	822.50	825.45	3.30
DRREDDY	45200.00	45211.55	4441.30	4511.15	12.45
BHARTIARTL	702.35	703.00	694.10	697.55	-0.05
DIVISLAB	4652.10	4667.70	4600.25	4639.00	-7.80
BRITANNIA	3302.05	3329.00	3282.85	3287.85	-8.35
ASIANPAINT	3040.00	3069.00	3014.65	3024.30	-14.00
CIPLA	898.30	898.30	886.40	888.95	-6.00

### NIFTY NEXT 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY NEXT 50	41867.50	42132.95	41728.10	42093.05	556.35
TORNTPOWER	2940.50	3088.00	2930.15	3079.00	142.05
YESBANK	1899.05	1946.00	1895.20	1938.15	89.10
INDIGO	12.65	13.70	12.60	13.40	0.60
SAIL	104.50	107.85	103.80	106.95	4.05
HINDPETRO	299.50	307.80	298.70	307.20	9.15
GAIL	129.80	133.40	129.60	132.75	3.90
BANDHANBNK	27.50	28.20	27.35	27.85	7.40
INDIASTEL	359.60	368.90	359.05	365.05	8.25
HAVELLS	1377.10	1405.70	1370.05	1402.55	29.80
VEDL	340.00	343.20	338.05	342.80	7.10
AUROPHARMA	661.80	677.90	658.25	675.55	13.75
DMART	4674.70	4719.00	4611.00	4689.00	95.55
DLF	380.20	386.25	378.90	384.20	7.70
MUTHOFINL	1471.00	1501.85	1461.30	1494.10	27.30
BANKBARODA	88.45	89.50	87.80	88.65	1.60
BAJAHLDNG	5294.00	5370.00	5222.95	5348.90	94.75
MCDOWELLN	883.00	896.00	880.65	893.95	15.55
NMDC	144.90	146.30	144.05	145.40	2.45
CHOLAFIN	558.00	571.50	558.00	563.60	8.05
SIEMENS	2199.95	2235.00	2181.35	2211.90	31.35
ADANIANT	1658.90	1679.00	1654.00	1669.10	23.50
LUPIN	863.80	875.85	853.10	870.30	12.05
PEL	2569.00	2595.00	2551.10	2553.00	33.70
SBCARD	990.00	995.10	980.50	993.10	13.10
IGL	495.00	499.35	492.50	498.35	6.55
PNB	38.30	38.65	38.20	38.30	0.50
JUNIFOOD	3735.00	3787.00	3715.05	3753.90	47.35
MARICO	521.95	527.95	518.35	524.95	5.75
PIND	2860.00	2918.00	2862.00	2883.10	30.30
ICICIPRULI	586.80	597.80	584.25	591.90	5.95
BERGEPAINT	727.15	735.50	727.00	733.05	7.25
BIOCON	361.60	364.80	357.35	363.05	3.30
AMBUJACEM	372.90	374.90	370.90	373.50	3.35
BOSCHLTD	16280.00	16241.15	16225.65	16250.00	135.90
ACC	2239.00	2240.00	2216.00	2235.00	17.70
DABUR	569.95	573.20	562.00	571.75	4.45
COUPAL	1434.95	1442.00	1424.00	1439.60	10.65
APOLLOHOSP	5299.80	5435.25	5235.95	5337.65	37.85
NAUKRI	5683.00	5729.00	5565.40	5676.65	32.20
ADANITRANS	1875.00	1915.00	1873.55	1884.00	9.85
ADANIGREEN	1398.00	1414.00	1351.00	1386.00	7.30
INDUSTOWER	271.50	272.55	265.00	269.85	1.35
GODREJPROP	896.50	897.80	884.30	889.15	2.45
PIDILITIND	2218.90	2218.90	2200.10	2206.35	4.80
ICICIGI	1425.00	1440.00	1404.00	1420.80	1.40
CADILAHC	454.00	455.55	448.20	457.35	0.25
PGHH	15125.00	15230.00	15050.05	15106.25	0.20
HDPCAMC	2542.00	2554.95	2532.00	2525.00	-2.95
GLAND	3588.00	3588.00	3515.00	3552.45	-8.30
LTI	6650.00	6684.95	6493.00	6520.10	-35.95

## BSE 500

Script	Open	High	Low	LTP
ICICIBANK	716.10	740.80	712.20	734.65
IDEA	14.85	15.19	13.92	14.21
TATAMOTORS	476.40	484.95	471.05	481.90
TATAPOWER	223.50	227.70	222.70	226.40
TATATEEL	1123.80	1155.50	1121.80	1149.35
HDPCBANK	1510.00	1532.00	1510.00	1525.45
RELIANCE	2381.70	2403.75	2373.55	2381.60
VEDL	340.50	348.60	337.70	344.25
KOTAKBANK	1891.10	1963.20	1891.10	1938.00
ULBSHGFIN	248.75	259.45	244.70	247.05
SBIN	468.25	479.65	468.25	476.65
HFCL	81.80	84.15	77.00	77.75
PGHH	15135.00	15220.60	14851.45	15100.00
BAJFINANCE	7040.00	7168.00	6960.80	7107.90
AXISBANK	678.20	691.25	667.40	687.20
SAIL	104.80	108.70	103.90	107.75
WIPRO	628.40	634.50	623.20	631.95



# Biden to warn Putin of eco pain if he invades Ukraine

AP ■ WASHINGTON



President Joe Biden is ready to warn Vladimir Putin during a video call Tuesday that Russia will face economy-jarring sanctions if it invades neighboring Ukraine as Biden seeks a diplomatic solution to deal with the tens of thousands of Russian troops massed near the Ukraine border.

Biden aims to make clear that his administration stands ready to take actions against the Kremlin that would exact “a very real cost” on the Russian economy, according to White House officials. Putin, for his part, is expected to demand guarantees from Biden that the NATO military alliance will never expand to include Ukraine, which has long sought membership. That’s a non-starter for the Americans and their NATO allies.

“We’ve consulted significantly with our allies and believe we have a path forward that would impose significant and severe harm on the Russian economy,” White House press secretary Jen Psaki said Monday in previewing the meeting. “You can call that a threat. You can call that a fact. You can call that preparation. You can call it whatever you want to call it.”

The leader-to-leader conversation — Biden speaking from the Situation Room, Putin from his residence in Sochi — is expected to be one of the toughest of Biden’s presidency and comes at a perilous time. U.S. intelligence officials have determined that Russia has massed 70,000 troops near the Ukraine border and has made preparations for a possible invasion early next year. In a statement released just hours before the leaders’ video call, Ukrainian authorities charged

that Russia is sending tanks and snipers to war-torn eastern Ukraine to “provoke return fire.”

Ukraine’s Defense Ministry alleged that Russia is holding “training camps under the leadership of regular servicemen of the Russian Armed Forces.” The Kremlin hasn’t commented on the allegations.

The U.S. has not determined whether Putin has made a final decision to invade. Still, Biden intends to make clear to the Russian leader that there will be a “very real cost” should Russia proceed with military action, according to a senior administration official who briefed reporters on the condition of anonymity.

Biden was vice president in 2014 when Russian troops marched into the Black Sea peninsula of Crimea and annexed the territory from Ukraine. Aides say the Crimea episode — one of the darker moments for former President Barack Obama on the international stage — looms large as Biden looks at the current smoldering crisis. The eastward expansion of NATO has from the start been a bone of contention not just with Moscow but also in Washington. In 1996, when President Bill Clinton’s national security team

## Indian-origin USAF doctor among 10 chosen by NASA for as astronauts future missions

PTI ■ HOUSTON

Indian-origin physician Anil Menon, a lieutenant colonel at the US Air Force, has been selected by NASA along with nine others to be astronauts for future missions, the American space agency has announced.

Menon, 45, was born and raised in Minneapolis,

Minnesota, to Ukrainian and Indian immigrants.

He was SpaceX’s first flight surgeon, helping to launch the company’s first humans to space during NASA’s SpaceX Demo-2 mission and building a medical organisation to support the human system during future missions. In a statement, NASA announced that it has chosen 10 new astronaut candidates from

a field of more than 12,000 applicants to represent the US and work for humanity’s benefit in space.

NASA Administrator Bill Nelson introduced the members of the 2021 astronaut class, the first new class in four years, during a Monday, December 6 event at Ellington Field near NASA’s Johnson Space Center in Houston.

# Rohingya sue Facebook for \$150B, alleging role in violence

AP ■ LONDON

Rohingya refugees sued Facebook parent Meta Platforms for more than \$150 billion over what they say was the company’s failure to stop hateful posts that incited violence against the Muslim ethnic group by Myanmar’s military rulers and their supporters.

Lawyers filed a class-action lawsuit Monday in California saying Facebook’s arrival in Myanmar helped spread hate speech, misinformation and incitement to violence that “amounted to a substantial cause, and eventual perpetuation of, the Rohingya genocide.” Lawyers in the United Kingdom have issued notice of their intention to file a similar legal action. Facebook, which was recently renamed Meta, did not immediately, reply to a request for comment.

It’s the latest in a series of accusations that the social media giant fueled misinformation and political violence, outlined in redacted internal documents obtained by a consortium of news organizations, including The Associated Press. The combined legal

claims from Rohingya refugees are being filed on behalf of anyone worldwide who survived the violence or had a relative who died from it.

The Rohingya are a Muslim ethnic group forced to flee persecution and violence in Myanmar starting in 2017, with an estimated 1 million living in refugee camps in neighboring Bangladesh. Some 10,000 have ended up in the United States.

In 2018, United Nations human rights experts investigating attacks against the Rohingya said Facebook had played a role in spreading hate speech.

More than 10,000 Rohingya have been killed and more than 150,000 were subject to physical violence, according to the law firms organizing the cases.

The lawsuits say Facebook’s algorithms amplified hate speech against the Rohingya people and that it didn’t spend enough money to hire moderators and fact checkers who spoke the local languages or understood the political situation. They also say Facebook failed to shut accounts and pages or take down posts incit-

ing violence or using hate speech directed at the ethnic group.

Facebook arrived in Myanmar in 2011, arranging for millions of residents to access the internet for the first time, according to the lawsuit filed in California Superior Court for San Mateo County.

But the lawsuit says the company did little to warn people about the dangers of online misinformation and fake accounts — tactics employed by the military in its campaign against the Rohingya.

The lawsuit says Facebook knew that rewarding users for posting dangerous content and allowing fake accounts created by autocrats to flourish would radicalize users.

“The resulting Facebook-fueled anti-Rohingya sentiment motivated and enabled the military government of Myanmar to engage in a campaign of ethnic cleansing against the Rohingya,” the lawsuit says.

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# Motorcycle explosion in southern Iraqi city kills at least 4

AP ■ BASRA, IRAQ

A motorcycle rigged with explosives went off in center of Iraq’s southern city of Basra on Tuesday, killing at least four people and wounding four others, according to Iraqi security forces. The blast set ablaze two other vehicles and sent a column of black smoke into sky.

The governor of Basra, Asaad al-Idani, told reporters on scene that a motorcycle had exploded, quickly blaming militants from Islamic State group. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for morning attack near a major hospital, which shook residents of city. Iraq’s Security Media Cell, an outlet affiliated with country’s

security forces, said in a statement that four people were killed and four were wounded as a result of the fire in two cars that were near motorcycle. It said forensics teams were at the scene of the blast and that more details would be released on nature of explosion, once investigations were completed. Explosions have been rare in oil-rich, predominantly Shiite Basra region in recent years, particularly since defeat of Sunni militant Islamic State group in 2017.

“Daesh is trying to destabilize security in Basra, but it will not be successful,” Al-Idani said after inspecting damage from blast, using Arabic acronym for Islamic State group.

# Whistleblower: As Afghanistan fell, UK abandoned supporters

AP ■ LONDON

Britain’s Foreign Office abandoned many of the nation’s allies in Afghanistan and left them to mercy of the Taliban during the fall of capital, Kabul, because of a dysfunctional and arbitrary evacuation effort, a whistleblower alleged Tuesday.

In devastating evidence to a parliamentary committee, Raphael Marshall said thousands of pleas for help via email were unread between Aug. 21 and Aug. 25. The former Foreign Office employee estimated that only 5% of Afghan nationals who applied to flee under one U.K. program received help. He said that at one point, he was only person monitoring inbox.

“There were usually over 5,000 unread emails in inbox at any given moment, including many unread emails dating from early in August,” he wrote



to Foreign Affairs Select Committee, which is investigating Britain’s chaotic departure from Afghanistan. “These emails were desperate and urgent. I was struck by many titles including phrases such as ‘please save my children.’ Marshall said some of those left behind had been killed by Taliban. One of Marshall’s most explosive allegations is a claim that British officials spent time and energy arranging evacuation of almost 200 dogs and cats from a Kabul animal shelter run by Nowzad, a charity founded by former Royal Marine Pen Farthing.

# China protests US diplomatic boycott of Beijing Winter Olympics

AP ■ BEIJING

China accused the United States of violating the Olympic spirit on Tuesday after the Biden administration announced a diplomatic boycott of Beijing Winter Games over human rights concerns.

Rights groups have pushed for a full-blown boycott of Games, accusing China of rights abuses against ethnic minorities.

The US decision falls short of those calls but comes at an exceptionally turbulent time for relations between powerhouse nations and was met with a barrage of criticism from China.

The US is attempting to interfere with Beijing Games “out of ideological prejudice and based on lies and rumors,” Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian told reporters.

## FROM PAGE 1

### LAL TOPIWALAS LIKE RED ALERT FOR UP: MODI

improved situation now. Fertiliser use be diverted to non-agriculture use and farmers faced lathis and bullets for it, he claimed.

The prime minister said his government also took steps to hike urea production by reviving closed fertiliser plants. “We stopped the wrong use of urea, and 100 per cent neem coating of urea was done. We made soil health cards for crores of farmers so that they could know which type of fertiliser is required for their farm,” he said. Ahead of the UP polls, the BJP government is showcasing development projects in Purvanchal, which accounts for around 160 of the 403 assembly seats.

The three big-ticket projects inaugurated on Tuesday are worth Rs 9,600 crore.

Apart from the fertiliser plant and the AIIMS, the PM inaugurated a Regional Medical Research Centre of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in Gorakhpur.

The newly-built fertiliser plant will be operated by the Hindustan Urvarak Rasayan Limited (HURL).

The Gorakhpur AIIMS, built at a cost of Rs 1,011 crore, will benefit not only the people from eastern Uttar Pradesh but also a huge population of Bihar, Jharkhand and Nepal, officials said.

The prime minister said the previous state governments made every excuse to delay the transfer of land for the AIIMS project.

Friends, today’s programme is a tight slap on those who are highly interested in raising the question of timing,” he said, in an apparent reference to the project being linked to the upcoming elections.

“When such projects are completed, there is years of hard work behind it. These people will never understand that even during the COVID-19 pandemic, the double engine government was engaged in development, and it did not allow work to halt,” he added.

**FARMERS TO TAKE FINAL CALL TODAY**

in this regard.

On the withdrawal of cases against farmers, Rajewal said, “We are also against the condition set by the Government that farm unions should lift the protest for the withdrawal of fake cases against farmers. We won’t accept any such precondition.” Farmers groups earlier formed a five-member committee of Balbir Singh Rajewal, Shiv Kumar Kakka, Gurnam Singh Charuni, Yudhvir

Singh and Ashok Dhawale to hold talks with the Centre and State Governments on their demands.

After the announcement of repealing three contentious farm laws, the SKM had written to the Prime Minister on November 21 and placed six demands.

The demands are: Legal guarantee of MSP for all produce based on C2+50% formula; withdrawal of draft Electricity Amendment Bill, 2020/2021; removal of the penal provisions on farmers in the Commission for Air Quality Management in the National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Act 2021; withdrawal of false cases registered against the farmers over the course of the ongoing movement; dismissal and arrest of Union Minister of State Ajay Mishra Teni in connection with the Lakhimpur Kheri incident; compensation and rehabilitation to the families of the who died during the farm movement; and allocation of land for a memorial to them at Singhu.

### AIR QUALITY PANEL ORDERS CLOSURE OF NCR PLANTS ...

After chairing the meeting with the representatives of these States on August , 2021, the commission also asked them to prepare an implementable action plan by clearly specifying definite time lines for switching over of all identified industries units to PNG, where infrastructure and supply of gas are already available and to develop a time bound comprehensive action plan, in consultation with the authorized entities to supply gas in the industrial areas falling within the specified Geographical areas of NCR districts, for ensuring PNG and infrastructure supply in the remaining industrial areas.

CAQM deputed Flying Squads are going on field visits and rigorously inspecting different sites contributing to deteriorating air quality of Delhi-NCR and reporting their compliance of the directions to the CAQM.

**PAY \$5 MN IN 2 WEEKS OR...**

The carrier further said it has a good case on merits and was hopeful of having favourable outcome in the appeal. SpiceJet reported a net loss of Rs 934.8 crore and Rs 998.3 crore in 2019-20 and 2020-21, respectively.

It had reported a net loss of Rs 729 crore for the quarter ending June 2021 as its flight operations were affected due to the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Didi links Nagaland killings to BSF excesses Says BJP usurping States’ power

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday linked the Central decision to provide extra jurisdiction to the Border Security Forces and Nagaland firing case saying that was how the BJP Government was trying to usurp the powers of the States.

Speaking at an administrative meeting in Karnajora in North Bengal the Chief Minister asked her own bureaucrats at the district level to keep a vigil on the “intrusion” and “activities” of the BSF that “often perpetrate cruelties on the poor villagers.”

Speaking to the senior district officials she said “you all should keep an eye on the BSF’s activities in the area ... they often torture the local people which they are not authorized to do ... I am telling particularly the BDOs and the Circle Inspectors to inspect the areas whenever there is an intrusion by the BSF men ... do bring things on record as they are not authorized to act beyond a limit of 15 km.”

Slamming the Centre for the Nagaland firing where 14 people died after the security forces fired at them Banerjee said “you all have seen what has happened in Nagaland ... we

cannot allow that to happen in Bengal ... The BSF should seek the permission of the local officials and the police administration before they enter their area as law and order is a State subject and they have no jurisdiction there ... if they try to intrude into the area the local BDO and the IC will immediately visit the area and do inspection.”

The Chief Minister is on a three-day administrative tour of parts of North and central Bengal. She is currently visiting South Dinajpur, North Dinajpur and Malda, from where she will travel southwards to Murshidabad and Nadia before reaching back to Kolkata.

# BMC denies irregularities in coastal road project as BJP seeks answers on CAG report

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Hours after the Opposition BJP demanded answers from the Maharashtra Government and the civic administration over the findings in the latest Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) on Tuesday dismissed as “baseless and incorrect” all allegations that were irregularities in the prestigious ₹12,700 crore prestigious Mumbai Coastal Road Project.

“All allegations about fraud and irregularities in the Coastal Road Project are baseless. No fraud or irregularities have been committed in the Coastal Road Project undertaken by the BMC. The allegations circulating in this regard are baseless and incorrect,” the BMC stated in a statement issued here on Tuesday evening.

Earlier in the afternoon, senior Mumbai BJP leader Ashish Shelar demanded answers from Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, State Environment Minister Aaditya Thackeray, Mumbai Municipal Commissioner I S Chahal and the ruling Shiv Sena in the BMC about the alleged irregularities in the implementation of the project. Among other things, Shelar demanded a clarification from the BMC over the CAG finding that Rs 295 crore had been given illegally to contractors and consultants.

The CAG has, among other things, questioned the BMC over a sharp increase in construction cost of the Mumbai Coastal Road Project (MCRP) from Rs 252 crore per kilometer in 2011 to Rs 1274

crore in 2018, a 405% rise. It has also raised questions over separate expenditure amounting to Rs 200 crore in an inspection report between April 2016 and March 2020. The total expenditure in the latter part amounted to Rs 2100 crore, of which Rs 200 crore has been called into question.

Being developed by the Shiv Sena-ruled BMC and State-run Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC) in four packages, the coastal road will connect Marine Lines in south Mumbai with Kandivli in north Mumbai. Along the 29.2 km stretch, the coastal road will have tunnels, bridges, interchanges, elevated stretches and roads on reclaimed land, along with pedestrian underpasses and foot over bridges (FoBs).

# Sarpanches urge PM to let Goa resume iron ore mining ahead of his visit to State

PNS ■ PANAJI/NEW DELHI

Ahead of the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi next week to Goa on the occasion of State Liberation Day on December 19, the Sarpanches of Goa have appealed to the PM to save their livelihood by resuming iron ore mines that have been closed for five years. More than 20 Sarpanches of Goa’s mining belt have apprised the PM that five lakh people in Goa were fully dependent on mining for their livelihood but mining is completely closed since 2018 and with covid already affecting tourism of the State, about a lakh families are directly or indirectly dependent on mining.

“Due to this the right of livelihood given to the citizens under the Constitution is also in danger. Goa had nominated Narendra Modi as Prime Minister in 2013, now he should resume mining and give a return gift to Goa. We want that mining should resume in Goa this time before the elections,” one of the signatory Sarpanch Surya Naik said.

Another Sarpanch Siddharth Desai said that tourism is almost closed in Goa for the last two years due to covid and common people have no work as well as there is no source of income due to the closure of mining. In such a situation, our appeal to PM is to save our livelihood, he mentioned.

In the letter the Sarpanches have said that they have apprised all representatives of the State many times about helplessness and situation. The letter says that as Goa assembly elections are due next year, the Sarpanches desires that BJP and its alliance come back to power. “Both the central and state government are fully aware of the whole matter. We appeal to you again that this is the right time when you can save millions of lives by resuming mining in Goa on time,” said the letter to PM.

The late Manohar Parrikar government had banned iron ore mining in Goa and now the matter is in Supreme Court. Incumbent Chief Minister Pramod Sawant has already indicated that he wants to start eight mines by forming a mining corporation but more than 300 mines are still closed in Goa.

The signatories include Village Panchayat Rivona, Village Panchayat Bhati, Village Panchayat Seldem, Village Panchayat Kardi. There are 40 gram panchayats in Goa through which the local administration is run as part of Panchayati Raj system. In a state where TMC, Congress and AAP are ready to take on the BJP government, the Aam Aadmi Party has given an election slogan that if they come to power, they will resume mining in six months.



Despite the strong growth and immense opportunities for future in the country's pharmaceutical industry, gender diversity has always been a big concern. ANJULA MASURKAR shares how women workforce is revamping it



## BREAKING HEALTHCARE BARRIERS

The Indian pharmaceutical industry enjoys a prominent position in the global pharmaceutical market with the industry being the largest provider of generic drugs globally. However, the sad part of the story is that despite the strong growth and immense opportunities for the future, gender diversity has always been a big concern for the industry.

The percentage of women executive directors in the pharmaceutical industry is only 7.69 per cent. However, with studies pointing to the benefits of women in leadership roles and a greater push towards gender equality, things are taking a turn with a new crop of women business leaders emerging at the top.

### The scenario so far

Traditionally, workplaces dominated by men have not been accommodating to women. Whether it is related to child care in the workplace, the flexibility of working hours or safety, women were not encouraged, supported or made to feel that they are equally capable of handling the tasks as handled by men.

Also, organisations pay little attention to helping women adjust to motherhood. The majority of women have to give up their work after childbirth owing to the lack of support and policies to help them resume their careers after childbirth.

However, with the latest guidelines by SEBI on board representation along with an increasing number of women inspired to make a difference, things are slowly changing.

Organisations nowadays are making conscious efforts to highlight their women leaders on platforms like media, conferences, business meetings etc. providing room for their growth.

Such initiatives act as a strong communication point in encouraging future generations.

**Women who have broken the barriers and redefined the pharmaceutical sector with their contributions:**

**Zahabiya Khorakiwala — Managing Director, Wockhardt Hospitals**

Zahabiya Khorakiwala has played a major role in making Wockhardt Hospitals a 250 crore business. She entered the business in 2010 as a director, soon after she completed her post graduation. Like most mothers, she also had to deal with the challenges of balancing work and personal life but that didn't stop her from learning the nitty-gritty of running the business and remoulding it from providing tertiary healthcare to giving quaternary healthcare.

Zahabiya has plans of capitalising on the opportunity that high healthcare costs in India coupled with low bed count offers and aims to open more specialty hospitals across the country.

**Dr V Shanta — Oncologist and Chairperson, Adyar Cancer Institute**

Awarded with the Magsaysay Award winner, Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan, she is the co-founder and chairperson of Chennai's state-of-the-art Adyar Cancer Institute. In an age when specialised medical care has become commercialised, she strives to make sure that the Institute remains true to its ethos, 'service to all'. Even at the age of 91, Dr Shanta is still devoted to changing the scene for cancer treatment in the country that serves as an inspiration to young physicians and doctors.

**Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw — Founder and Chairperson, Biocon Limited**



Anjula Masurkar  
Clinical Director of  
ENTOD Pharmaceuticals

ORGANISATIONS  
NOWADAYS ARE  
MAKING CONSCIOUS  
EFFORTS TO HIGHLIGHT  
THEIR WOMEN  
LEADERS ON  
PLATFORMS LIKE  
MEDIA, CONFERENCES,  
BUSINESS MEETINGS,  
PROVIDING ROOM FOR  
THEIR GROWTH

Regarded as one of the most influential and top women entrepreneurs in India, she is the founder of India's largest pharmaceutical firm — Biocon. Established in 1978, the company has today emerged as India's largest biotech giant and Asia's biggest producer of insulin.

Owing to her relentless efforts to develop, manufacture and supply life-saving biopharmaceuticals at price points that are affordable and accessible to the masses, she has also been honoured with the Padma Shri and the Padma Bhushan award.

**Samina Vaziralli — Executive Director, Cipla**

Samina Vaziralli is the granddaughter of founder Dr K A Hamied and she is credited with growing the consumers business of the 75-year-old pharmaceutical company.

As the mother of 2 children, she needs no telling of the struggles women have to face to maintain a work-life balance. In the quest to help women manage both their personal and professional demands, she brought vast changes in the way women are taken care of in her organisation. Up to fifty per cent of the Management Council in Cipla is constituted by women.

There is no reason to believe that the pharmaceutical industry is not suitable for women. Today, there is an increasing number of women making their mark in the industry and breaking the stereotypes. In order to bridge the gender gap in the pharmaceutical industry, organisations need to actively create a culture that actively advocates diversity and inclusion.

A few organisations have already stepped up and there will come a time when women will have equal representation in the workforce in the pharmaceutical sector.

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

**Real education should consist of drawing the goodness and the best out of our own students.**

— Cesar Chavez

## MSC ADVANCED PHARMACOLOGY

The University of Strathclyde, Glasgow is inviting applications for its MSc Advanced Pharmacology course starting in September 2022.

The Masters in Advanced Pharmacology will provide you with a comprehensive three-part postgraduate life sciences training.

The programme has a special focus on how drugs and other chemicals affect the body in health and disease. You'll explore the development of new and improved medicines and the treatment of disease.

**Duration-** 1 year

**Eligibility-** Minimum second-class Honours degree, or overseas equivalent, in a biological or chemical discipline. English language minimum score of IELTS 6.0 (with no component below 5.5)

**Fee-** £22,400 for international students for 2022/23

**UG/PG AT WUD**

World University of Design invites online applications



from candidates for admission to its undergraduate and postgraduate programmes across all disciplines being offered at the university for the year 2022. WUD DAT 2022, the design aptitude based entrance exam is scheduled on Saturday, February 5th, 2022.

Admissions are open for nearly 30 programmes offered across Fashion, Product, Interior, Transportation, Graphic Communication, Animation, Film & Video, Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Architecture and Management.

**Apply:** [www.wud.ac.in](http://www.wud.ac.in)

Candidates would be required to register, verify their email IDs and fill the form. They can use the unique WUD Query Management System (WUD-QMS) for getting their queries promptly and efficiently responded.

## Sommet Education kick-off development plans for India

PNS ■ GURUGRAM

Sommet Education, world leaders in hospitality and culinary education, which owns globally renowned institutes including Les Roches, École Ducasse and Glion Institute of Higher Education, recently entered into a strategic partnership with Indian School of Hospitality (ISH), founded by hospitality veteran Dilip Puri.

The partners aim at offering a global standard of education to a larger number of hospitality and culinary arts aspirants in the years to come, in India and the neighbouring countries.

Through this partnership, worldwide education reference in culinary and pastry arts

École Ducasse has now its first campus in India at ISH, and Les Roches, one of the world's leading hospitality business schools, enters in an academic alliance with ISH for its undergraduate and postgraduate hospitality management programmes.

At an event in Delhi NCR to celebrate the partnership, Benoît-Etienne Domenget, CEO, Sommet Education and Dilip Puri, Founder & CEO, Indian School of Hospitality announced their future development plans for India.

The first step of this plan is to expand the current ISH Gurugram campus, which will feature an additional 25,000 sq. ft of classrooms, training kitchens, and student experience areas.

Overall the exam was doable, not very tough but lengthy when compared to the previous years. LR was a little time consuming and lengthy. DI was easy and not too calculation intensive. It was noticed that a data interpretation set was similar to a DI set of CAT 2019. VARC was more fact based which was easy to solve. However, the length of the passages was a challenge. Overall it had 35 questions with 16 questions from RC and 19 questions from verbal ability. Arithmetic rules the roast in the quantitative ability section as expected. The questions were lengthy and time consuming but not difficult. The first few sentences of the questions were just meant to eat up the student's time, hence one had to scout out the right amount of information from the question and solve it as quickly as possible. The GK section was more on the current affairs side including questions related to sports personalities and their professions.

Exam tested students on speed, logic and analytical skills, a sincere student with well-rounded preparation of concepts and a good practice of mocks would make their way to the IIFT.

It was an exam with no twist. Well prepared students should be able to outperform. Logical reasoning section was a little difficult and time consuming, we saw the changes in reading comprehension passages with dominance of fact-based questions. However, ones with the habit of reading a lot of books and essays have nailed it.

Negative marking existed for the multiple-choice questions. In VARC, DILR, and QA sections, for each correct response, +3 is rewarded and for each incorrect, -1 is deducted.

In the GA section for every cor-



## IIFT analysis 2021

While paper was quite lengthy, students found it to be moderately difficult to tackle. Given the time crunch, one had to select right set of questions to ace, says SUMIT SINGH GANDHI

rect response, +1.5 is awarded and for every incorrect, -0.5 is deducted. The exam was not very difficult, it was manageable provided your concepts were clear.

**Feedback from some of the students**

"The paper was overall moderate to difficult. The verbal section was lengthy but comparatively easier than last year. What was surprising was to see no data interpretation questions to be calculation intensive like the previous years, however, logical reasoning took up a lot more time than I had initially planned." – Jayant

"The paper was very structured but lengthy and time crunching. VARC was time consuming with concerns with the fact-based questions in all Reading comprehensions not many inference questions. DI was pretty easy and had glimpses of old cat papers. Overall in the paper, selection was the key so now let's hope for the best." – Aakrosh

**Sectional Analysis**  
**Overall Difficulty:** Moderate to Difficult

**VARC 35 Questions:** Reading comprehension was dominated in the verbal section. There were 2 passages with 5 questions each and 2

passages with 3 questions each. Verbal ability was overall easy.

**Summary of Questions**  
**Reading Comprehension** 16 questions

**Verbal Ability** 19 questions  
**Ideal attempts in VARC Section:** 11-13 questions  
**DILR:** 30 questions

LR/DI was easy to moderate, lengthy and time consuming. Here the success mantra was the set selection as a few sets were the toughest and time consuming, so the students should first wrap up the easy ones and grab a good base and then move to the trickier ones. Also, as men-

tioned by one of our students, practicing for CAT gave him a little extra boost for IIFT.

**Summary of Questions**  
**Ideal attempts in DILR Section:** 16-19 questions

**Quants 25 Questions:**  
Quants were the easiest out of the three sections with direct formula application and concept based questions dominated by arithmetic and little geometry and algebra. There was no need for having a lot of shortcuts and tricks, your solving speed and your temperament to understand what the question is asking was the main focus. Arithmetic dominated the paper then algebra and numbers, geometry saw a lesser.

**General awareness 20 Questions:**

General awareness was fairly easy with more current affairs questions than static GK questions. The section was well structured and diverse to cover a wide variety.

**Summary of Questions**  
**Ideal attempts 45+** with 90 per cent accuracy can be expected to get a call for IIFT.

Overall a happy day for students who know their basics and have preached their books with building conceptual clarity and like Rahul Sir always says "Success comes to those who work for it. Keep working hard and you will see the results!"

For an in-depth analysis on each section, overall cut-off, which colleges to apply and how to gear up ahead stay tuned to the CATKing Youtube Channel.

Now let the karma play its role, party tonight and come back with a bang for the series of exams lined up ahead, one day one exam can never give an idea about one's aptitude nor decide your career path.

The writer is CEO, Director, CATKing

## Social media and growth of cybercrimes

Social media is the fifth pillar of democracy and shouldn't be taken lightly in any means. Many people in past have ignored the power of social media and the heinous crimes that are on a constant upward slope, and have faced repercussions for the same.

Terms like hacking and cyber fraud were relatively new to our dictionary, but their growth is phenomenal. Earlier most of the breaches would happen over the telephone but now the intensity of the crimes have been taken to the next level.

Cyber frauds have found new and convenient ways of getting into your private system, and the internet of things is only making it easier at every stage, any electronic device connected to the internet can be easily tapped and hacked.

In recent years, hackers easily breach into your mobile phones and turn on your camera without your knowledge, it can happen because of a lack of strong passwords and security settings. The hackers can further breach your personal information on the web or use it as a means to blackmail and fetch money from you. Such incidents have increased during the COVID-19 pandemic due to the financial crunch in the overall economies.

Hackers have easily found their way into people's private conversations, and have been bale to use it against them. But,



that's only because we as users aren't aware enough.

The best way to stay protected is to change your passwords after a designated interval and always use a lengthy combination of upper and lower case characters, numbers and special characters. We should also equip ourselves with protection such as web camera covers, and privacy settings that bring into our knowledge if some unusual activities are occurring in our systems.

To be safe on social media should be everyone's topmost priority, especially now when everything starting from our addresses to our phone numbers are readily available, and can put our and our loved ones life in danger. Never give into the blackmailing but fight back with the right attitude, that's what will put the cybercriminals in the right place

The writer is Ajeet Gunwant  
Parse, Social Media Expert

## SRM NCC Naval Troop inaugurated on Navy Day

PNS ■ KATTANKULATHUR

The SRM NCC Naval Troop was inaugurated at SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Kattankulathur as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsava observed nationwide to commemorate the 75th Year of Independence and Navy Day.

Organised by NCC Dte (TN P & AN) in association with SRMIST. The inaugura-



tion was done by Group Commander Gp Capt T Arunachalam in the presence

of Officer Commanding Lt Cdr Lalith Kumar CR, SRMIST's Vice Chancellor Dr

C Muthamizhchelvan, and Registrar Dr S Ponnusamy.

As part of the National Navy Day celebration a Boat Pulling Regatta for the 4 (TN) Naval Tech Unit NCC was held. About seven teams took part in this contest which was flagged off by Gp Capt T Arunachalam.

This was part of the nationwide event that is being held in 75 locations in the country.

## PG Programme in Software Development by Great learning

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Great Learning, a part of BYJU's group and one of the Edtech companies for higher and professional education, has flagged off a Post Graduate Programme in Software Development and Engineering. This 6-month programme designed by industry experts and Great Learning mentors will enable freshers, graduates and early career professionals to obtain in-demand software development skills. Dedicated placement assistance will be provided to help them get placed in top IT companies.

According to a recent NASSCOM report,

3,40,000 is the present demand-supply gap for tech talent in India. This programme aims to bridge the gap and enable freshers and early career professionals with knowledge and skills to become ready for roles like JavaScript Developer, Back-end Developer, Full Stack Engineer, Python Developer and Front-end Engineer, which are amongst the top 15 emerging jobs in India based on a recent study by LinkedIn. The programme will provide dedicated placement assistance with recruitment processes from leading technology companies and also career support in the form of mock interviews with industry experts, resume guid-

ance and dedicated placement drives. Great Learning works with 1200+ leading companies, and conduct over 20,000+ interviews per month among its learner base. Some of the marquee companies that hire for technology talent from Great Learning include Capgemini, Dell, Amazon, Flipkart, Nvidia, HCL, Uber, Intel, KPMG, Cognizant, Deloitte and more.

Hari Krishnan Nair, Co-founder, Great Learning says, "Companies today are investing heavily to create products and services that provide value in the digital economy. The demand for qualified professionals with expertise is on the surge."



A competitive entrance exam like Chartered Accountancy needs a credible and right strategy because it varies with respective syllabus and the expected number of people appearing for it, says

**ASHISH KALRA**



# PREP TIPS FOR CA

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) announced exam dates of CA Foundation, CA Intermediate (IPC) and CA Final courses for December 2021 phases. The examinations of all three course levels will be held between December 6-20, 2021.

The most challenging part is to prepare and then to clear the CA exam. You should start streamlining aims at the initial stages of preparation/studies. There are so many questions in an aspirant's mind — what actually you want to be, what is in your mind, how to prepare, from where the guidance needs to be taken, how to crack CA exam in first attempt and so on.

You should draw a clear-cut time agenda, be well-versed with the concepts and decide if you will be more comfortable to self-study or choose coaching for preparation. Also, there are certain tricks which the candidates learn over the period of time and can use it on the day when they appear for exam.

**Keep on reading:** Developing a habit of reading at the early stage leads you towards cracking required entrance exam. Primarily newspapers, motivational or story books, fiction or non-fiction novels, e-papers etc always benefit you by increasing your knowledge, reasoning and comprehensive abilities. Try to learn something new every day and these small efforts would surely bring big fortunes in future.

**Update yourself as per syllabus:** Before preparing for any competitive exam, you should know the syllabus and that is the first step of preparation. This will help you to prepare for those subjects, topics and sub topics which are required to be covered. It will help you to save your time which you would have wasted on studying and preparing redundant part. You must know the syllabus of the exam you are preparing thoroughly. You can print multiple copies of syllabus, topic wise or chapter wise and try to grab the same by heart.

**Learning source:** Arranging right study material is the second step, the type of questions that can be asked and the questions for which you must prepare, you need the study material. The study material should consist of books which have the necessary content. Know the importance of a particular topic. Clear your concepts from one book rather reading too many books or study material, our idea is to clear fundamentals and its implementation to the fullest.

**Give much time to studies:** All competitive exams need time for the preparation, although it depends on exam to exam but an early start is the key to success. Improve your quality of time for the reading, not just the number of hours. Clear your concepts repeatedly, underline important points and try to write on the paper.



**Studying for long hours and short of sleep may overload your brain and you can start feeling bored or uninterested. To relax your mind, it is important to take short but regular breaks while you are studying**

**Planning:** Basis all inputs that you have received to clear your dream exam, design your own strategy to prepare, dedicate time to everything, write your own notes, it will help you for the revision and finally at the exam time. Keep cross checking your preparation with the syllabus and time available with you.

**Exam pattern:** Irrespective of the exam culture, you must solve the previous papers and mock test to get the exam feel and understanding. Keep the terms and conditions as similar as real test while appearing for the exam. Also, you need to identify your strong sections and weak points. Attempt what you know is right. Attempt your strong section first and then move to other sections accordingly, if there is section cut-off, you have to attempt best possible options in every section.

**Preparation environment:** Preparing in a right atmosphere is also very important to prepare for entrance exams such that there should not be any mental disturbance. If you have good environment around you, you will be able to prepare better, faster and more easily for the exam. Avoid any distraction like unwanted noise around your study area.

**Belief:** While preparing for the exam you may feel like giving up or you are not the right candidate for this exam. It is very important for you to have high level of self-

confidence to crack competitive exams. You need to convince yourself that it's your dream and you have to be fully prepared to clear the exam.

To bring in sufficient self-confidence and strengthen your intentions, you can read motivational books and inspirational material. Share your feelings with your mentors and parents.

**Be healthy:** Students generally ignore their physical and mental health while preparing for the exams. Due to which they may experience physical weakness or mental exhaustion. They must understand that if their body does not have sufficient energy then they will not be able to pay required attention to their studies. It is important to have a good diet, sufficient water and sound sleep.

**Short breaks:** Studying for long hours and short of sleep may overload your brain and you can start feeling bored or uninterested. To relax your mind, it is important to take short but regular breaks while you are studying. Feeling tired and laziness are again the signals that you need a break. You should try simple activities - listen to some music, take a few minutes' walk or watch a 5-10 minutes inspirational or funny video. These things will surely help you to refresh your mind and re-energize your body.

The writer is a CA/CS and founder-director, An IGP Pvt Ltd

## Be analytical about the future

Credit analysis is one of the most sort after professions for those looking for lucrative opportunities in finance, says **AMIT GOYAL**

When a firm or company wants to take a loan, someone at the bank that has been approached will examine whether lending money to that party is safe. This professional, called a credit analyst, needs to figure out if the lender will be able to recover its money. Credit analysis exposes you to diverse industries and organizations, which could include large corporates, small and medium enterprises, partnership or proprietorship firms, as well as other banks.

### JOB PROFILE

Credit analysts work in the lending and credit departments of commercial banks, credit card companies and other financial firms. They are responsible for evaluating the creditworthiness of new credit applicants and monitoring the ongoing financial performances of existing credit customers. They use a variety of analytical techniques to evaluate the risk associated with lending money or extending credit to applicants. Analysts typically assess credit reports, payment histories, financial statements and job histories. When evaluating a business, analysts may also study its operations and the industry and local market in which it operates to make determinations about its ongoing competitive outlook. Credit risk analysts generally produce reports and recommendations based on their analytical work. They are also responsible for making the final decision whether to approve or deny credit applicants.

### CAREER PATH

They start working in junior analytical positions after earning associate or bachelor's degrees in accounting, finance or a related business field with a quantitative focus. Some positions deal with consumer credit evaluation and may be open to candidates who have associate degrees and relevant experience. Positions that focus on business credit evaluation often demand greater knowledge.

Top-performing analysts can rise into financial management positions overseeing analytical departments, making final credit decisions and monitoring departmental performance.

### QUALIFICATION

Need a bachelor's degree in finance, accounting or another related field. A



**Amit Goyal**  
Director, TKW's Institute of Banking and Finance

bachelor's degree in finance or accounting exposes you to subjects like basic accounting and finance, statistics, ratio analysis, calculus, economics, industry assessment and financial statement analysis. Subjects like industry and ratio analysis are necessary because part of assessing the risk for a company includes assessing its environment. Candidates also do the post graduate diploma in banking and finance.

### SKILLS

A commercial credit analyst must have accounting skills since he spends time running calculations for corporate financial statements and tax returns. His knowledge of spreadsheet allows him to create reports to compare with data from previous years. He prepares a narrative report and recommendations based on the analysis of the data. He needs written and oral communication skills to present his findings.

### REMUNERATION

These analysts can work in a variety of fields. Many work for lending institutions like banks or insurance companies. There is great demand in investment, working for an asset manager or private equity firm. The plethora of opportunities is reflected in the salary. The annual salary ranges between ₹5 lakh-₹8 lakh and depends on experience, industry and location.

To overcome exams' fear during the present pandemic, you just need to focus over following practices:

#### Share your thoughts

The simple act of talking to someone who cares for you is extremely important. While this covid situation has made this really difficult for all of us to meet in-person. But one can still take a good advantage of social media platforms and can talk via calls and/or messages.

Talk to a close friend or family member about what you're going through. As, reaching out is not a sign of weakness but a way to get rid of depression

you may have been going through. In fact, it won't be a burden.

It can be tempting to retreat into your shell when you feel depressed due to covid crisis around you. So, it's good to be as social as you can when you are about to begin your preparations for the CA examination since your mind should be in a relaxed state while preparing for your CA exams.

#### Get a chance to move

It's something that go against protocols that one should follow during covid but still with all the safety measures to be followed in this situation, you can try to help yourself

## MIND IT

to boost your mood in your examination days.

Regular exercise plays a vital role in keeping your mind and body relaxed and perfect to deal with your CA exams. You don't have to be dependent on medications or energy drinks to be active during your CA examination. All you need is just few minutes of walk, exercise and movement of your body. You can dance to your favourite music. You can meditate to improve

concentration and memory. You can do yoga to keep yourself fit to fight any uncertainty like covid.

#### Reframe negative thoughts

Although there are several factors that contribute to depression during this pandemic, you can still think of several realistic and hopeful ways to fight with such negativity engulfed us by the COVID-19 fear.

#### Find hope and have faith

We always try to blame nature/life

circumstances for how you feel especially in such covid pandemic but there are ways to find ways to cope up with such circumstances like

**Be your own friend:** Instead of rehashing your past mistakes, focusing on the negative aspects, talk to yourself just like you do with your friends.

**Pat yourself on the back:** Take some time to believe in you and make yourself think positive and give credit that you have the will to do best in your CA exams.

**Change your morning thoughts:** Before you go to sleep try to write down something positive which you can read when you wake

up in the morning.

Here are some more ways that you can follow to keep your preparations strong:

- Get enough sleep. Set aside 7 to 9 hours each night for sleep.
- Avoid skipping meals.
- Hydrate. Drink plenty of water.
- Stay active to energise yourself and help raise your spirits.

- Rest and recharge with fulfilling hobbies like reading, art, or music.
- Meditating or keeping a grief journal can help you process emotions.
- Talk to your healthcare provider about any new physical or mental health issues.



The University of Sheffield, UK invites applications for its 75 International Undergraduate Merit Scholarships in 2022. The scholarships are competitive awards worth 50% of the tuition fee for an undergraduate degree programme starting in autumn 2022. The scholarship is available for new international students who meet the eligibility criteria.

You must hold an offer to study at the University of Sheffield before you apply for this scholarship.

**Eligibility:** Your programme must be scheduled to commence at the University of Sheffield in autumn 2022.

You must receive an offer for a course studied in full at the University of Sheffield. All undergraduate degree courses are eligible with the exceptions of Medicine (A100/A101) and Dentistry (A200). For tuition fee purposes you must be self-funded and eligible to pay the overseas tuition fee.

You must not be a sponsored student. You must enter a degree programme at the University of Sheffield in programme year 1 or year 2.

For further terms and conditions please visit - <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/international/fees-and-funding/scholarships/undergraduate/international-undergraduate>.

**Application deadline:** The deadline for scholarship applications is 13:00 (UK time) on Monday April 25, 2022.

Application are invited from highly skilled students to manage their finances for a postgraduate degree by applying for this Future Leaders International Scholarships at the National College of Ireland.

The scholars will get a discount of 50% on tuition fees for the academic year 2022/2023.

**Eligibility:** To be eligible, the applicants must have an undergraduate degree an excellent academic record.

**Supporting documents:** Candidates are requested to submit all the following documents:

Copy of your academic transcripts and certificates, both in original form and translated to English by a recognised translator; Copy of English language test results; Copy of passport; Copy of CV/resume

**Admission requirements:** Entry requirements vary depending on the course and are detailed in our international brochure and individual course pages.

**Language requirement:** IELTS English language requirements are listed next to each course in our brochure or available on our English language requirements page.

**How to apply:** Fill the scholarship form provided by the college and mail the completed form to [admissions@ncirl.ie](mailto:admissions@ncirl.ie)

**Application deadline:** It is April 30, 2022.

### FLUTTER DEVELOPMENT AT KUDDLE TECHNOLOGY

Location: Work From Home  
Stipend: ₹5,000-₹10,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/c35abd](https://internshala.com/i/c35abd)  
Deadline: December 15, 2021

### WEB DEV AT SARATH CHANDRA

Location: Work From Home  
Stipend: ₹8,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/9df395](https://internshala.com/i/9df395)  
Deadline: December 15, 2021

### GRAPHIC DESIGN AT BLUE RIBBON CLOTHING

Location: Work From Home  
Stipend: ₹5,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/a74b48](https://internshala.com/i/a74b48)  
Deadline: December 15, 2021

### E-COMMERCE SALES & TECH SUPPORT AT INDIAN ROBOTICS SOLUTION

Location - Delhi  
Stipend: ₹8,000-₹10,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/162090](https://internshala.com/i/162090)  
Deadline: December 15, 2021

### FULL STACK DEVELOPMENT AT DIGNIFYD DIGITAL SOLUTIONS

Location: Delhi, Noida  
Stipend: ₹13,000-₹16,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/71bd27](https://internshala.com/i/71bd27)  
Deadline: December 15, 2021

### WEB DEVELOPMENT AT EPIGROWW

Location: Lucknow  
Stipend: ₹15,000-₹20,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/6aa7b7](https://internshala.com/i/6aa7b7)  
Deadline: December 15, 2021

### GRAPHIC DESIGN AT M-CORE INDUSTRIES

Location: Ranchi  
Stipend: ₹12,000-₹18,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/ee706](https://internshala.com/i/ee706)  
Deadline: December 13, 2021

## INBRIEF

### NANOPARTICLES AS PACKAGING DEVELOPED

The National Institute of Technology Andhra Pradesh Researchers collaborating with other Institutes have demonstrated how the concept of nanotechnology can be used to develop food packaging materials that enhance the shelf-life, maintain quality, retain flavor and color of packed food materials.

A group of interdisciplinary researchers led by Dr Tingirikari Jagan Mohan Rao, Assistant Professor, Department of Biotechnology, NIT Andhra Pradesh, have published an article in the prestigious peer-reviewed Journal of European Food

research and Technology. Nanotechnology is an emerging area of research as its application is growing day by day in various sectors including food and agriculture due to their wide physical, chemical, and biological properties which are functionalised with several biomolecules to enhance the properties of packing and storage materials.

Dr Rao said: "The research emphasizes the role of nanoparticles to provide mechanical stability to packing material and shows how the nano-sensors can be developed to detect pathogens, contamination, pesticides, and allergens and enhances the antimicrobial properties of packing material to prevent food spoilage and contamination."

### IIT GUWAHATI SETS A NEW RECORD

The Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati has seen a huge jump in terms of the number of offers made by the end of day two,

profiles open, companies' participation, domestic and international packages and total number of international offers.

The total number of PPOs this year is 179, a 34.5% increase since 2020. Offers made till the end of the second day of the placement are 530.

### STUDY ABROAD MBA PROGRAMME

The Simplilearn announces its partnership with IU International University of Applied Sciences (IU) to offer learners a one-year international MBA programme. Through the partnership, learners are offered a dual degree in association with

London South Bank University. The learners get an opportunity to study abroad in Germany for one semester. Learners are also eligible to apply for a Post Study Work Visa after completing the course.

### 71% OF PARENTS STILL HELP KIDS WITH ACADEMICS

In the wake of the online model of schooling, parents across the country became more involved with their kid's academics than ever before. As several schools welcome students back to classrooms, Brains conducted a survey to determine the evolving role of parents. Survey highlights:

■ Most parents were hesitant to send students back to physical schools: Over 18 months into the study-from-home model, the tides turned again as schools reopened their gates with the utmost focus on hygiene and safety. The survey has identified that 62% of the Indian parents were hesitant to send their children back to school as many continue to work from home. The finding

calls for a greater focus on creating tech-led hybrid classrooms that accommodate students in both physical and virtual formats.

■ Parents are more involved in their children's education even as schools reopen: A majority (59%) of students say that their parents are more involved in their education after the viral outbreak. Interestingly, 71% of the students continue to receive academic assistance from their parents even after the commencement of physical classes. Online learning resources have empowered parents by giving them the necessary tools to tutor their children.

The survey also corroborates this idea by revealing that 60% of

parents know about online learning platforms. Furthermore, over 46% of parents seek help from such online learning tools.

■ Personalisation key to learning: Parents are going the extra mile to ensure that their children thrive in the new educational paradigm. Around 59% of students receive help with studying from private teachers or tutors. A holistic learning model with school, tutors, and online learning platforms ensures that students are able to firmly grasp all concepts, clarify their doubts, and find answers to their curious questions. Online learning platforms are increasingly offering one-on-one mentoring to quench the need for personalised learning that successfully aids student's learning.

### ONLINE TALENT SEARCH EXAM FOR UG ASPIRANTS

The Triumphant Institute of Management Education (TIME) is conducting Talent Search Examination for CLAT/IPM/BBA and HM 2022-23 aspirants on December 19, 2021.

The test will be conducted in two slots — 10 am and 6 pm. Aspirants can choose to write the test in any one slot.

Attractive performance-based fee waivers

(up to 100% on CLAT/IPM/BBA/HM 2022-2023 classroom/online courses) will be available for the students.

A minimum assured discount of 10% of the total course fee will be available for those who enrol in the said courses between December 6-19, 2021.

To register: <https://www.time4education.com/local/articlecms/page.php?id=4876>

The TIME has grown into a specialist, multi-location and multi-program training provider run on corporate lines. T.I.M.E. today offers a wide range of programs not only for national and state-level entrance exams like the GATE, CAT, GMAT, GRE, Bank PO, and other competitive exams.

To know more contact: <https://www.time4education.com/index.php>



# Ashes could revolve around contest between Cummins, Root

It will be 181st Test match between the two teams in Australia and 352nd overall. Australia have won 95, lost 57 and draw 28 in 180 previous Test matches played against England at home. Overall, Australia have won 146, lost 110 and draw 95 in 341 Test matches played against England

Australia have won 33, England 32 in 71 Ashes series played between the two teams. The remaining six series ended in a draw. The last series played in England in 2019, were drawn, both teams have won two matches each while one match ended in a draw



AP ■ BRISBANE

One particular contest between bat and ball could shape this Ashes series. Pat Cummins is set to lead the home team, putting a fast bowler's perspective on Australia's test cricket captaincy for the first time since the 1950s. Joe Root is primed to lead England with the bat again in a series he thinks may define his career.

"A bowling captain for Australia and a batting captain for England — two captains going toe to toe will be great," England wicketkeeper Jos Buttler said on the eve of the first test.

Root was already feeling some pressure before it was confirmed that Jimmy Anderson, England's all-time leading test wicket taker, will

miss the first test starting Wednesday at the Gabba.

Buttler said the senior players in the team were ready to step up to support Root, and the return of inspirational all-rounder Ben Stokes would also help.

"We know he's our best player, we want to support him, help him, share that load," Buttler said of Root "He's been in incredible form. He comes here determined to continue that. "It's a massive series for him." Root heads into this series as the leading test batsman in the world, having scored 1,455 runs in 12 tests in 2021 at an average of 66.

But England has lost nine of the 10 tests it has played in Australia since its drought-breaking series win Down Under in 2010-11, mostly by big margins. Root has been on the

last two tours, and was captain for the 4-0 loss in 2017-18.

And then there's England's record at the Gabba, where it hasn't won a test since 1986 and has recorded only two wins since 1946.

Buttler said England was only looking back as far as January, when an injury-depleted India squad clinched a series win by ending Australia's unbeaten record at the Gabba that dated to 1988.

"I don't think we have anything to lose ... (rather) everything to gain," he said. "You know to do that against Australia here, you have to be at your best"

England released a 12-man squad later Tuesday, leaving most speculation over the formation of the bowling attack. Stuart Broad, Chris Woakes, Mark Wood and Ollie Robinson were included as specialist pace

ENGLAND-AUSTRALIA TEST ENCOUNTERS				
Venue	M	Eng won	Aus won	Draw
In England	171	53	51	67
In Australia	180	57	95	28
Total	351	110	146	95
At Gabba	21	4	12	5

HIGHEST INNINGS TOTALS			
England in England:	903-7dec in 335.2 overs at The Oval	1938	
England in Australia:	644 in 177.5 overs at Sydney	2010-11	
Australia in England:	729-6 dec in 232 overs at Lord's	1930	
Australia in Australia:	662- 9 dec in 179.3 overs at Perth	2017-18	

LOWEST INNINGS TOTALS			
England in England:	52 in 42.1 overs at The Oval	1948	
England in Australia:	45 in 35.3 (4-ball) voers at Sydney	1886-87	
Australia in England:	36 in 23 overs at Birmingham	1902	
Australia in Australia:	42 in 37.3 (4-ball) overs at Sydney	1887-88	

HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORES			
England in England:	364 Len Hutton at The Oval	1938	
England in Australia:	287 Tip Foster at Sydney	1902-03	
Australia in England:	334 Don Bradman at Leeds	1934	
Australia in Australia:	307 Robert Cowper at Melbourne	1965-66	

BEST BOWLING IN AN INNINGS			
England in England:	10-53 Jim Laker at Manchester	1956	
England in Australia:	8-35 George Lohmann at Sydney	1886-87	
Australia in England:	8-31 Frank Laver at Manchester	1909	
Australia in Australia:	9-121 Arthur Mailey at Melbourne	1920-21	

BEST BOWLING IN A MATCH			
England in England:	19-90 Jim Laker at Manchester	1956	
England in Australia:	15-124 Wilfred Rhodes at Melbourne	1903-04	
Australia in England:	16-137 Bob Massie at Lord's	1972	
Australia in Australia:	13-77 Monty Noble at Melbourne	1901-02	

LAST FIVE ASHES SERIES			
Season	Venue	Winner	Result
2013	England	England	3-0 (5)
2013-14	Australia	Australia	5-0 (5)
2014	England	England	3-2 (5)
2017-18	Australia	Australia	4-0 (5)
2019	England	Drawn	2-2 (5)

**FAISEL FEATURES**

THE ASHES 2021-22		
Australia vs England Test Series		
Dec 8-12, 2021	<b>1st Test</b>	Brisbane Cricket Ground
Dec 16-20	<b>2nd Test*</b>	Adelaide Oval
Dec 26-30	<b>3rd Test</b>	Melbourne Cricket Ground
Jan 5-9, 2022	<b>4th Test</b>	Sydney Cricket Ground
Jan 14-18	<b>5th Test</b>	Perth Stadium
*Day and night match		
<b>KBK SportsGraphics</b>		

bowlers, and left-arm spinner Jack Leach was also in the mix. The starting XI will be confirmed at the coin toss.

Cummins revealed his starting XI well ahead of time, giving himself plenty of time to adjust to his new job. That now includes attending the pre-match news conferences and going out for the coin toss instead of marking out his run-up to prepare to bowl.

The 28-year-old Cummins made his test debut as a teenager in 2011 and was elevated to the captaincy when Tim Paine quit last month after media reports he'd been investigated four years earlier by cricket administrators for sending an explicit text to a work colleague.

He said he plans to rely heavily on his experienced deputy Steve Smith, who was replaced as Australia's test cap-

tain by Paine in 2018 after the infamous Sandpapergate scandal in South Africa.

He served a suspension from leadership positions and was the leading batter when Australia retained the Ashes in England in 2019.

"Smithy and I have been really good mates for a long time. When I was 18, I'd sleep on his couch on occasions," Cummins said. "He's a legend of the game. Of course I'll be leaning on him for ideas at times.

"There'll be times when I need a rest — I'll have no problem handing over to him."

Alex Carey was given the wicketkeeper gloves to replace Paine and Travis Head was retained to bat at No. 5.

The Australians haven't played a test since the 2-1 series loss to India in January, while England has played in Sri Lanka

and India and hosted New Zealand and India in series.

But the wet weather and quarantine requirements means neither team is going into the series with a lot of red ball cricket form.

The bulk of the Australian team was involved in the Twenty20 World Cup victory in the United Arab Emirates last month, where coach Justin Langer gave the playing group more control over the preparations.

It's something Cummins wants to carry into the test arena.

"The environment we created at the World Cup is a blueprint," he said. "The relaxed environment, empowering everyone to do it their own way. Tailor the preparation. They're great lessons we learnt the World Cup that worked."

## Hardik undergoing rehab in Mumbai, decides to skip Hazare Trophy

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Out of favour India all-rounder Hardik Pandya has decided to skip Vijay Hazare Trophy (National One Dayers) starting across the country from Wednesday as he is undergoing an extensive rehabilitation programme in order to regain his bowling fitness.

"The Baroda Cricket Association (BCA) had sent an e-mail to Hardik enquiring about his availability for the Vijay Hazare Trophy. He has rarely played for Baroda in last three years. However he gave a one-line reply that he is currently doing rehab in Mumbai," a senior official privy to developments in BCA told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

Asked what is the injury he is carrying at the moment, the official said: "Even the BCA doesn't know. It is understood that he is trying to do some strength and conditioning module for his back which is no longer in best of shape post surgery in 2019," the source

revealed.

The official informed that Hardik's elder brother Krunal had joined Baroda's pre-Hazare camp for a week after he was instructed by the state board that attending the camp is mandatory for being part of the final squad.

"BCA told Krunal that he can't just land up during tournaments and he has to be a part of the camp. Then he came and trained with the team for a week," the source said. If Hardik doesn't play the domestic tournaments, he will not be considered for a comeback in the Indian side for the white ball tournaments. "The current national selection committee has told all the players that all those who are not in the India squad should go back and play domestic cricket — Hazare and Ranji Trophy," the source added.



PTI ■ MUMBAI

Indian fringe players would get one last chance to impress ahead of the IPL Mega Auction in the Vijay Hazare Trophy one-day cricket tournament beginning on Wednesday. The auction is slated for January and a stand out performance in the 50-over event could lead to a hefty pay package with an IPL franchise.

## Bangladesh trying to avoid follow-on with one day left

AP ■ DHAKA

Offspinner Sajid Khan claimed a career-best 6-35 as Pakistan reduced Bangladesh to 76-7 and produced a glimmer of hope of forcing a result in the second and final test on Tuesday.

After day three was washed out, Pakistan resumed the fourth day from 188-2 and declared at 300-4 after lunch. Then spinners Sajid and Nauman Ali got to work until stumps was called an hour early because of bad light. Bangladesh trailed by 224 runs and still needed 25 runs to avoid the follow-on at the end of a dramatic day.

"After the declaration, our target was to give us the best chance to win the game and attack relentlessly and that's what we did," Sajid said.

"Fortunately, there was turn and bounce aplenty. We two spinners bowled in partner-



ship. We will try to get the three wickets tomorrow and force them to bat again and win the game." Bangladesh's last hope to

chise.

The likes of Harshal Patel, Rahul Chahar, Deepak Chahar, who were not retained by their respective franchises in the IPL, would look to make it count when they represent their respective states in the domestic one-dayers.

The IPL has seen a number of youngsters making it big overnight as it also has served a big platform to represent the country and it would be no different this time around.

In the opening day's action, defending champions Mumbai will take on Tamil Nadu who would be riding high on the confidence of winning Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy recently. All-rounder Shams Mulani will lead

Mumbai in their Elite Group B campaign in Trivandrum. Mulani had also captained the team when they had toured Oman and in absence of senior players, who are on national duty. The team will have formidable left-handed opener Yashasvi Jaiswal along with Arman Jaffer, crisis man Siddhesh Lad and all-rounder Shivam Dube to bank upon, while the bowling attack will be led by experienced Dhawal Kulkarni.

The Tamil Nadu side would be bolstered by the inclusion of Dinesh Karthik and Washington Sundar as they would look to make amend of their show last season when they failed to make the last-eight.

Bengal will be boosted by the inclusion

of senior batsman Anustup Majumdar who will give stability to their side as they open their campaign against Baroda who capped a poor show in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy winning just one match out of five.

Sudip Chatterjee-led Bengal impressed in patches before bowing to Karnataka in the quarterfinals of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy and they would look to go the distance in the fifty-over format.

In Maharashtra, all eyes would be on Ruturaj Gaikwad who was retained by his franchise Chennai Super Kings after a stupendous show as an opener that saw the MS Dhoni-led side clinch their fourth IPL title.

## Harbhajan set to join support staff of major IPL franchise for next season

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Former India off-spinner Harbhajan Singh will be seen in a different avatar during next year's Indian Premier League as a key member of the support staff in one of the high-profile franchises. The 41-year-old Harbhajan, who featured in a few matches during the first phase of last IPL for Kolkata Knight Riders, didn't play a game in the UAE leg of the league. Harbhajan is expected to officially announce his retirement from competitive cricket some time next week and after that he will decide on one the offers he has

got to be a part of the support staff of at least a couple of franchises.

"The role could be that of a consultant, mentor or part of the advisory group but the franchise with which he is talking are keen to use his vast experience. He will take active part in also helping the franchise decide on their auction picks," an IPL source privy to the development told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

Harbhajan has always shown keen interest in grooming players and that was also his role in the later years with Mumbai Indians where he spent a fruitful decade.

## I-League to start on Dec 26, to be played in four venues in and around Kolkata

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

This year's I-League season will kick off on December 26 in Kolkata with a match between TRAU FC of Manipur and All India Football Federation's developmental side Indian Arrows.

The matches will be played across three venues -- Mohun Bagan Ground in Kolkata, Kalyani Stadium and Naihati Stadium.

With three new entrants -- Greenidi Deccan FC of Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan United FC and Kenkre FC of Kolhapur -- this season, the number of teams has increased to 13.

All of them, along with the referees, officials and volunteers, will be housed inside bio-



secured bubbles in four different hotels across Kolkata.

"The AIFF has been a pioneer in Indian sporting ecosystem in hosting sporting events from inside bio-bubbles, and we are happy to continue providing a safe haven for players, referees, and everyone else

involved in running the league," said AIFF Leagues CEO Sunando Dhar in a release.

"We need to thank all our partners, because the logistical and financial effort to house 13 teams in a bio-bubble for an entire season would not have been possible without their

help."

Rajasthan United FC and Kenkre FC have made their way to the I-League by virtue of finishing first and second in the Qualifiers.

As per the tournament format, all the teams will play against each other once in a round-robin format in Phase 1, before being split into two groups in Phase 2 of the league. The top seven teams will make up Group A and the bottom six will make up Group B.

Once the Divisions are made after the end of Phase I, the teams of each group will play against each another in a single leg round-robin format. While the teams in Group A will play to determine the champions, those in Group B will be in a relegation battle.

## Organisers say Djokovic set to play in ATP Cup

AP ■ SYDNEY

Novak Djokovic has been named in the Serbian team for January's ATP Cup, an indication that Djokovic could play in the Australian Open a week later despite controversy over his vaccination status.

Organizers on Tuesday said 18 of the world's top 20 players will take part in the 16-country tournament in Sydney from Jan. 1-9, with Djokovic leading top-seeded Serbia. Djokovic hadn't publicly committed to defending his Australian Open title at Melbourne Park or revealed his vaccination status, with a mandate that he needs to be double-vaccinated to play.

While the ATP Cup doesn't have the same entry criteria, his



inclusion for the ATP Cup means he now appears likely to chase a 10th title and 21st Grand Slam singles title at Melbourne Park, which would break a tie for major singles wins with Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal.

To play without being vaccinated in Sydney, the New South Wales state government would have to apply for an exemption for Djokovic and the 34-year-old would have to undergo 14 days of quarantine upon arrival.

### Notice Inviting e-Tender

No.SSA/ST/Procurement/Spl-Bag/355/2021/7722 Date :03.12.2021  
Mission Director, Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19, Assam invites tender through e-Tendering process from manufacturer of bag for supply of Special Bag.

To participate in the tender process through e-procurement document, bidder should have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) and have to register in the portal <https://assamtenders.gov.in> by themselves.

The Bidder who have downloaded the tender schedules containing the tender details, terms and conditions, from the website shall submit their tender on-line on the website <https://assamtenders.gov.in>, with proof of payment of non refundable tender processing fee of Rs. 5000/- (Rupees five thousand) only in the form of demand draft/Bankers Cheque drawn in favour of Mission Director, Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19, Assam, from any nationalized/Scheduled Bank and payable at Guwahati. The tender should be submitted on-line as per date and time of submission as per prescribed schedule.

Janasanyog /CF/2257/21



Sd/-Mission Director,  
SSA Assam  
Kahilipara, Guwahati-19