A FLIGHT AND TRAVEL

AFTER ONE YEAR

WORLD 8

**HUNDREDS OF NIGERIAN SCHOOLGIRLS** 

TAKEN IN MASS ABDUCTION

DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA

RNI Regn. No. MPENG/2004/13703, Regd. No. L-2/BPLON/41/2006-2008

\*Late City Vol. 18 Issue 57

KRITI JUGGLES **BETWEEN** SHOOTS

BHOPAL, SATURDAY FEBRUARY 27, 2021; PAGES 12 ₹1.50

# ne pione



# **Battle for 5 States from Mar 27, results on May 2**

8-phase polls in Bengal; Assam 3 phases; TN, Kerala, Puducherry on April 6

With political temperature running high ahead of the Assembly polls, the Election Commission (EC) on Friday announced that voting for five Assembly polls will begin on March 27 with West Bengal going for an eight-phase elections till April 9 and phase elections till April 9 and Assam for a three-phase exer-cise till April 6. The Assembly polls in Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry will be held in a

single phase on April 6.

The counting will be held for all five States on May 2. With the announcement of poll schedules, the model code of conduct came into effect from Friday evening. Terms of the Legislative Assemblies in West Bengal, Assam, Kerala and Tamil Nadu are coming to an end in May and June.

Announcing the election

schedule, Chief Election Commission Sunil Arora said that nearly 18.68 crore electors will vote at 2.7 lakh polling sta-tions for 824 seats in these Assembly elections and polling stations will be at the ground

floor without any negotiation.
"There shall be maximum 1,000 electors instead of 1,500 electors at a polling station and voting will be allowed for an extra hour, adding that arrangements would be made for candidates to file nominations online," he said.

In Assam, elections will be held for 126 seats in three



Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora, with Election Commissioners Sushil Chandra and Rajiv Kumar, arrives for a Press conference in New Delhi on Friday

phases on March 26 (47 seats), April 1 (39 seats), April 6 (40 seats). The last date of nomination is March 9.

Announcing the schedules for West Bengal, Arora said, "For 294 seats in West Bengal, the first phase of the election has been scheduled on March 27 and it will cover 30 constituencies. The second phase of West Bengal's Assembly elec-tions has been scheduled for April 1 and will cover 30 constituencies, followed by the third phase on April 6 for 31 seats, the fourth on April 10 for 44 constituencies, the fifth on April 17 for 45 seats, sixth for 43 seats on April 22, seventh phase on April 26 for 36 seats and last and eighth phase on April 29 for 35 seats."

Last time, the Assembly

elections were conducted in seven phases in Bengal. A total of 68 seats are reserved for the Scheduled Castes and 16 for the Scheduled Tribes. Term of the current West Bengal Assembly is scheduled to come to an end

The election for the 140 seats in Kerala, 234 seats in Tamil Nadu and 30 seats Puducherry will be held in a single phase on April 6.

Taking note of the threat of intimidation and violence during the poll campaign, the EC has directed that the election security plan of poll-going States will be jointly decided by a committee comprising the chief electoral officer, State police nodal officer and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) coordinator. According to offi-

#### Assembly Poll Schedule 2021 ASSAM WEST BENGAL Total seats: 126 Total seats: 294 Eight phase poll Three phase poll Phase I (30 seats): Mar 27 Phase 1 (47 seats): Mar 27 Phase II (39 seats): Apr 1 Phase II (30 seats): Apr 1 Phase III (40 seats): Apr 6 Phase III (31 seats): Apr 6 Phase IV (44 seats): Apr 10 KERALA Phase V (45 seats): Apr 17 Total seats: 140 Phase VI (43 seats): Apr 22 Single phase poll: Apr 6 Phase VII (36 seats): Apr 26 **PUDUCHERRY** Phase VIII (35 seats): Apr 29 Total seats: 30 Single phase poll: Apr Counting for all states: TAMIL NADU May 2, 2021 Total seats: 234

cials, over 6,600 polling stations in West Bengal have been identified as "vulnerable" and 715 critical ahead of the Assembly elections while over 2,654 polling stations has been identified as "critical" and 338

Single phase poll: Apr I

vulnerable in Assam.
Recounting the Covid-19 guideline issued by the commission in August 2020, the CEC said polling time has been extended by an hour and door-to-door campaigning has been restricted to five people. He added that States can modify the guidelines according to their local Covid-19 situation. The CEC also said that adequate Central paramilitary

forces will be deployed during the elections.

All sensitive, critical and vulnerable polling stations have been identified and an adeate number of CAPFs will be deployed there.

#### **Everyone on poll** duty to get jab before polls: EC

New Delhi: Everyone on election duty for the upcoming polls for five Assemblies will be vaccinated against Covid-19 before polling day, the Election Commission said on Friday.

# Mamata raps EC, sees Modi, Shah design in 8-phase polls

SAUGAR SENGUPTA 
KOLKATA

Soon after the Election Commission of India announced an unprecedented 8-phase Assembly election for Bengal, a furious Mamata Banerjee attacked the poll panel accusing it of playing a prejudiced role to the advan-

tage of the BJP.

The TMC chief said the ECI was "following the commands of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah," and that the "people of Bengal will not forgive them for giving us such a humiliating deal."

Emerging from a

Emerging from a Trinamool Congress core committee meeting, she said, "I have reports that the list of phase-wise elections found in the BJP office completely matches with the EC's announcement ... I think as a Constitutional body it should have been more reasonable. impartial while deciding on the number of phases.

Bengal had witnessed 7-phased elections in 2019 Lok

Sabha polls.

Wondering as to why polls would be held in four other States in lesser number of phases, Mamata said, "They are conducting elections in



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee addresses a Press conference at Kalighat in Kolkata on Friday

Assam in three phases, Tamil Nadu and Kerala in single phase, but they are holding elections in Bengal in 8 phases ... why they are heaping such an insult on the people of Bengal ... the people will not take this lightly?

The Bengal Chief Minister also said, "The EC is an impor-

tant Constitutional body. If they do not give justice to the people then who will they turn to? I came to know that the election dates have been given as per the requisition of the BJP... tell me why the districts have been divided in halves for the conduct of the elections... Moreover districts like South 24 Parganas where the TMC is stronger, the elections are being held in three phases... This means that the polls have been planned as per the desire of the Modi and Shah. But let me tell you the Prime Minister and Home Minister cannot misuse their

### **Complete pullback must for** lasting peace: India to China

India, China agree to establish hotline contact for real-time exchange of views

PNS NEW DELHI

A fter India and China pulled back troops from the Pangong Tso (lake) stand-off site in Ladakh, New Delhi has stressed the need for disen-gagement from all the other friction points for lasting peace and tranquility at the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

Making this assertion during his 75-minute-long telephonic talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Thursday, External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar said disengagement was necessary to contemplate any deescalation of troops. The two sides agreed to establish a hotline contact for timely exchange

During the talks on ursday, the two Ministers also reviewed the current situface-off sites in Hot Spring, ation at the LAC, the process of smooth withdrawal of troops of valley.



both the Armies from the Pangong, and general ties between the two countries, External Affairs Ministry said

cussed the road map for early disengagement of troops from and Depsang

The high-level political contact took place after the disengagement from the southern and northern banks of the Pangong lake was completed last week. The process had started on February 10 and the two Corps Commanders met on Saturday last to take stock of the situation. They also dis-

During his talks with his Chinese counterpart, Jaishankar said peace and tranquility on the border is essential for development of bilateral relations.

Giving details of the talks, the Ministry said India told China bilateral relations have been impacted severely over last year. "EAM said boundary question may take time to resolve but disturbance of peace and tranquillity, includ-ing by violence, will inevitably have a damaging impact on the relationship, the Ministry said. The two Ministers agreed to remain in touch and establish a hotline, it added.

According to a late-night Press release issued by the Chinese Foreign Ministry in Beijing, Wang said China and India should firmly follow the right path of mutual trust and cooperation between neighbouring countries, and not go astray with suspicion and distrust nor fall back on a road of

"negative retrogression".

Wang noted that the two countries need to properly handle the border issue so as to prevent the bilateral ties from trapping into a "vicious cycle" per cent during the third quarter this fiscal, as the sectors because of it.

# Farm, services, construction revive GDP to grow at 0.4%

#### **After contracting** for two quarters in a row, it enters positive territory

PNS NEW DELHI

After contracting for two quarters in a row, the Indian economy entered the positive territory with a growth of 0.4 per cent in the October-December quarter, mainly due to good performance by the farm, services and construction sectors, official data showed on Friday

Ahead of the release of the GDP data, Sensex slumped by nearly 2,000 points on the fear that long-term growth projection may not be sustainable

The 0.4 per cent growth is at the lower end of the forecast made by most of economists and others.

Trade and hotel industry stered a contraction of 7



of coronavirus pandemic. According to the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), the farm sector recorded a growth of 3.9 per cent, and the manu-

facturing sector output grew by 1.6 per cent in the quarter under review. The construction sector advanced by 6.2 per cent, while electricity, gas, water supply, and other utility services clocked a 7.3 per cent

Constant (2011-12) Prices in

₹36.22 lakh crore, as against ₹36.08 lakh crore in Q3 of 2019-20, showing a growth of

0.4 per cent".

The gross domestic product (GDP) had expanded by 3.3 per cent in the corresponding period of 2019-20. In its second advance estimates of national accounts, the NSO has projected 8 per cent contraction in 2020-21, showing the pandemic impact. In its first advance estimates released in January, it had projected a contraction of 7.7 per cent for the current fiscal as against a growth of four per per per per in growth of four per cent in

2019-20. The economy had shrunk by an unprecedented 24.4 per cent in the first quarter this fis-cal following the coronavirus pandemic and the resultant lockdown. In the second quarter, the GDP declined 7.3 per cent amid a perk up in economic activities after the easing of the lockdown.

The first and second-quarter GDP growth figures are revised from (-) 24.9 per cent The NSO said, "GDP at and (-) 7.5 per cent provision-nstant (2011-12) Prices in al estimates, respectively, Health exp O3 of 2020-21 is estimated at released in November 2020.

# Corona rears its head in Delhi again; experts warn of another wave

PTI NEW DELHI

ust as the Delhi Government had asserted that the coronavirus pandemic had been "defeated" in the national Capital, cases are on the rise again dramatically, as doctors on Friday warned the numbers could go up in the coming months and urged people to continue to wear masks and fol-

low Covid-19 safety norms. Many doctors at leading healthcare facilities here cau-tioned that the rise was "alarming" with an "upsurge" in the number of patients going there in the last couple of days, after the cases had shown a down-ward spiral for nearly six weeks. Delhi had recorded 94 fresh

Covid-19 cases on February 16, the lowest in over nine months then. However, after a week on February 24, it more than doubled to 200 and increased fur ther to 220 on Thursday an

on Friday attributed this "su

den rise" to complacency in people and not following Covid appropriate behaviour and "assuming all is well now".

Dr Suranjit Chatterjee,

Senior Consultant, Internal Medicine at Apollo Hospital, said he "wasn't surprised" to see the rise in daily cases as so many people have thrown cau-tion to the wind, attending parties and big social gather-ings, with many of them not even wearing masks, let alone maintaining social distanc-ing. "The coronavirus behaviour pattern seen in the West and elsewhere tends to get seen in India, a month later, as it happened in reporting of the first case in Kerala and so on and so forth. So, if the US and UK are seeing a surge again, we should have become more watchful.

COVID-	'A PRADESH	
	<b>Total Cases</b>	Fresh Cases
Bhopal	43931	58
Indore	59330	96
Gwalior	16527	18

### All sections of society will benefit from self-reliant MP: CM

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that Governments are not forever but the development of the state should continue. With the cooperation of all of us, we are creating a new self-reliant Madhya Pradesh, in which all sections of the society will be benefitted.

CM Chouhan was replying to the discussion on Governor's address in State assembly on Friday. He said that dream of building a prosperous and strong India under the leader-ship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is being fulfilled.

Government has reduced the VAT and excess VAT on petrol and diesel. Beneficiaries under various schemes were

transferred ₹118455 crores in their bank accounts, he added

Chouhan further said that farmers were not paid crop insurance premium of 2200 crores by earlier government, we deposited the premium and the amount of 3100 crores was given to the farmers, 100 crores of horticulture crops were deposited in the accounts of the farmers. Similarly, 800 crore rupees were given to coopera-tive banks. Under the Prime Minister's Samman-Nidhi, 78 lakh farmers of the state received an amount of Rs. 5474 crores.

Wheat procurement was 1.29 lakh metric tonnes while 37 lakh metric tonnes of paddy were purchased at support price in the state.

Continued on Page 3



Artists of JawaharLal Nehru Dance Academy, Manipur perform during the 47th Khajuraho Dance Festival in Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh on Friday Pioneer photo

# We should seek poor's blessings by providing them food, says Chouhan

STAFF REPORTER 
BHOPAL

hief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that we should seek poor's blessings by providing tasty and nutritious food to the poor. Urban bod-ies and voluntary organizations engaged in this work certainly deserve to be lauded. One can find Narayana by feeding food to the hungry and water to the thirsty. Chouhan water to the tnirsty. Chounan was virtually dedicating 100-new and well equipped kitchen centers in the state under Deendayal Antyodaya Rasoi Yojana at Minto Hall todav.

Chouhan said that food, clothing, shelter, education and medicine are basic needs. It is also said that Bhookhe bhajan na hoi Gopala. Anna hi Kitchen centers are useful for the labourers and others who come to cities leav-ing behind their villages to fend



Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan virtually inaugurates Deendayal Kitchen Centres, at Minto Hall in Bhopal on Friday Pioneer photo

for themselves and their chil-

dren.
The Chief Minister said that the scheme that started from the year 2017 should be extended. He said that apart This will be an important step from the district headquarters

of the state, major religious

tours have been added to the town plan. Besides, kitchen centers started in other towns and cities should also be expanded.

for humanity.

Continued on Page 3

# **Cong to mobilize State farmers**

Announces series of Kisan Mahapanchayats, other parties to extend support

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ BHOPAL

Few months after farmers from several states started dharna in the national capital against three agri-marketing laws, Congress has started efforts to mobilize peasants in Madhya Pradesh.

Rajya Sabha MP Digvijay Singh on Friday talking to media at his Bhopal residence, announced a series of Kisan Mahapanchayats in Madhya Pradesh in co-operation with smaller parties and farmer-labourers organisations.

There is no solution in sight to the stalemate due to Centre's high handedness and over 200 agitating farmers have lost their lives," said Singh calling farm laws, 'drafts prepared by some corporates' which will



Senior Congress leader and Rajya Sabha MP Digvijay Singh addresses a press

give them entry into 18-20 lakh cr agri trade markets. State units of Samajwadi

Party, BSP, JD (u), CPI, NCP,

proposed campaign besides several farm bodies and labour-

ers' unions, said Singh. It will be purely an apolitical campaign where there will be no pomp and show in mahapanchavats and those speaking will be standing on a makeshift dias made out of tractor –trollies and everyone else will sit on the ground and farmers will be asked to bring their own food to the venue.

There would not be any organisation flag at the venue except for tricolour, added the former Chief Minister saying the aim of the campaign is to make farmers aware about per-ils of three farm laws and cautioning them about safety of their future.

The Rajya Sabha MP slammed charges that Congress

was behind farm unrest in Delhi saying if it was an event organised by the Congress party, how come the Akali Dal, an old ally of BJP was part of the same. The first kisan mahapan-

chavat on March 4 will be organised at Delanpur, around 100km from district headquarters in Ratlam which had saw a major farm agitation in year 2017. Similar events will oe organised in Dhar, Ujjain, Sehore and Shajapur. Kedar Sirohi, working pres-

ident of MP Kisan Congress said that participation of MP farmers have been low in the farm unrest so these mahapanchayats will be oraganised to enhance their participation. We have invited farmers' leaders who are leading the charge in the national capital, added Sirohi.



Principal Chief Income Tax Commissioner of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, RK Paliwal addresses 8th International Conference on 'Sustainability through Environmental Protection and Agricultural Development' organised by Janparishad at State Museum in Bhopal on Friday

### Dell Technologies to support GLA varsity's IT infrastructure

LA University, a leading has selected Dell Technologies to support its digital transformation journey. With the implementation of the only jointly engineered hyper converged infrastructure (HCI) system with VMware, Dell EMC VxRail, GLA University can now manage the most demanding workloads and applications to become future-ready.

GLA University's IT infrahandle an overload of concur-

rent users which led to regular unscheduled maintenance checks and forced downtime of up to eight hours of server stoppage, and up to a minute for simple data retrieval jobs.

To overcome this huddle, GLA University invested in individual servers and outsourced admissions that increased their IT investments. infrastructure manpower, and overheads significantly.

The University collaborated with Arrow PC Network, a Titanium Partner of Dell Technologies, to deploy Dell EMC VxRail that helped them deliver lifecycle management of a fully integrated hardware

and software stack.
With Dell EMC VxRail with Deli EMC VXRail solution, GLA University enhanced its savings in terms of manpower and training. The university has also reduced overheads (AMC, Electricity, Cooling units etc.) and diverted 80% of the team's time to ed 80% of the team's time to high-value tasks.

The students and staff

members now have ease of access to applications around the clock and face near-zero downtime even while working

### Women empowerment-cum-felicitation prog for SHG members organised by SBI

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

 $F^{
m or\ empowerment\ and\ ben-}_{
m efit\ of\ SHGs,\ State\ Bank\ of}$ India has organised a Women Empowerment cum felicitation programme for SHG members at Badarwas block of Shivpuri District on February 25, 2021.

Around 250 women members of over 50 SHG groups from different villages of Badarwas and Kolaras block were present in the programme. Programme was chaired by Chief General Manager of Bhopal Circle Umesh Kumar Pandey, Deputy General Manager (B&O) Gwalior, Regional Manager (FIMM), Guna, Regional Manager, R&DB, Guna and other officials were also present

on the occasion.

In Badarwas block,
National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) has formed around 1102 SHGs and out of that 303 have been credit linked so far by different banks.

State Bank of India's Badarwas branch alone has provided credit to 53 SHG covering around 580 beneficiaries during current financial

year. These SHGs are engaged in agriculture, animal husbandry, floriculture, kirana shops, jacket, soap, sanitary napkin, mask preparation under brand name of 'Aajeevika". Three SHG members narrated stories of struggle and success which were heart touching and encourag-

The Bank Officials includ-ing Chief General Manager, reaffirmed SBI's commitment for women empowerment through SHG and assured continuous help for empowerment of women through such schemes.

### Advanced procedures have overcome coventional cardio surgery challenges: Dr Mishra

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

n eminent Heart Surgeon An emilient real of of YK Mishra, Chief of Head of Clinical Services, Head of Cardiac Sciences & Chief Cardio-Vascular Surgeon, HCMCT Manipal Hospitals, New Delhi who belongs to the region, regularly takes out time to visit Bhopal for Cardiac OPD and creating awareness of critical heart diseases and availability of these advanced procedures and heart transplant.

While talking to media persons, Dr Mishra highlighted advanced treatment in cardiac care & surgeries to give a better quality of life to heart

patients

If we keep benefits and efficacy apart, new procedures MICS and Robotics come with several challenges. They require special training, equipment, infrastructure and consumables have been the main rea-son why minimally invasive techniques have not picked up widely in most centres despite their advantages, Dr Mishra

Advanced procedures overcome the risks of conventional surgeries which are complex and have several compli-cations, said Dr Mishra who

has over 20 years experience in performing high-end cardiac surgeries and over 30 years of total experience in cardiovas-

cular space.

Heart disease including heart failure is the leading individual cause of disease burden in India and it contributes significantly in total deaths. According to the expert, people with critical heart disease should be made well aware of these advanced procedures being performed by providers.

Quality assurance in any cardiac unit is paramount as it allows measuring the quality of the healthcare delivery at all times. HCMCT Manipal Hospitals has a Centre of Excellence for Cardiovascular diseases and provides best-in-class treatment, high-end procedures such as heart transplants and care, added Dr Mishra.

The Expert also strongly recommended people to modify lifestyle and pay attention to diet and exercise to keep heart problems away. Clinically, with the advancement of medical science high-end transplant and devices have come as a boon to those who suffer from life-threatening Heart ailments including heart failure.

# IGRMS to organise photo contest 'Chitramaya Bhopal'

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ BHOPAL

Inder its various education and Outreach activities, the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya (IGRMS), Bhopal is organizing a photo contest entitled 'Chitramaya Bhopal' meaning Picturesque Bhopal. For this photographs related to Bhopal are invited on following categories likes Cultural Heritage, Folk Culture and traditions, Attires, Landscape, Natural Heritage, Life. The contest last date is 28th February, 2021, Photos must be emailed to igrm-sphotography@gmail.com to be Contest last date is 28th Feb'21. Photos must be emailed to photography@gmail.com

to be submitted online

submitted online. Contest Rules and regulations for submission of Photographs- the contest is open for Indian citizens and for online submissions only. All the entries must be related to topic only. The submissions will not be accepted after the deadline lapses, Photos must be in JPEG/TIFF format. Smaller files can be submitted through online and later on larger

files have to be provided to IGRMS's hard drive, Maximum no. of photos can be submitted, A unique title & description for each image should be submitted, year of exposing and location should also be provided, Photographers will get the certificate

of appreciation.
Top three selected photographers will be given chance to exhibit 5 panels of their choices in the

IGRMS separately.

The period will be fixed as per the convenience of IGRMS and photographer, All submitted photos should contain the original EXIF



View of the deserted new market as shops remained closed during Bharat Bandh called by the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) against Goods and Services Tax (GST), hiked fuel price and new

### NSG holds 17-day training prog to Create reserve pool of BDDS in MP STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL Guard. Additional Director and prosperous life.

n order to create a reserve In order to create a real pool of Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad (BDDS) in the state, the third 17-day training program conducted by the National Security Guard was organized at the Special Branch Training Institute Jehangirabad Bhopal for 49 employees of Madhya Pradesh Police and concluded on 26 February at

On the occasion of the closing ceremony, the Chief Guest of the program, Additional Director General of Police (Intelligence) Adarsh Katiyar boosting the morale of the trainees said that BDDS training will be made more effective based on the sugges-

Guard.Additional Director General of Police Yogesh Chaudhary said that all the things taught in the training should be implemented seri-

Inspector General of Police (Law and Order / Security) Santosh Kumar Singh asked trainees to take training seri-ously, he asked to be ready to meet the challenges of the future. The concluding program was attended by trainers om National Security Guard Manesar, Harvana. During the training, 12 models prepared by the trainees were observed by the guests.

Meanwhile, Additional Director General of Police Kailash Makwana felicitated six policemen at their retireand prosperous life. At a farewell programme of retired police personnel at police state headquarters on Friday.

The six policemen were Superintendent of Police Headquarters Ramesh Ahirwar, Inspector Kumer Singh, SI Suman Shukla, SI Puran Singh Reniwal, SI Pramod Kumar Bathre and ASI Niaz Ahmed and were provided orders for the pension,

GPF and other payment claims.
Additional Director
General of Police Adarsh Katiyar, Milind Kanaskar, Vijay Kataria, Anuradha Shankar and Yogesh Chaudhary, along with other officers, staff and family members of retired employees were present in the farewell ceremony held at the

exiled Pandavas are dwelling.

#### Play 'Comedy in Dark' staged at Shaheed Bhavan

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Aplay spun with the comic sit-uations shows a brilliant transition of light from dark. The play 'Comedy in Dark' was brilliantly performed at Shaheed Bhavan on Friday, marking the second day of 15th Rang Mahotsav.

A masterpiece written by

Peter Shaffer, the play was directed by Manoj Nair and was beautifully performed by the artists of Rang Madhyam Natya Sanstha. The play is an adaptation of the original script.

Struggling sculptor Manas Bhateja and his fiance, Natasha Kapoor, are having a party with the aim of impressing a millionaire Peeru Chandani.

They hope the millionaire

sculptures. As Manas' home's interior is middle class, they thought of an idea.

Without permission, they borrowed the furniture and effects of their fussy neighbor, Vivek Mushran, to make their own flat more presentable. Just before the guests arrive, the main fuse blows, plunging the flat into darkness. Meanwhile Natasha's father arrives at their place to fix the marriage and Vivek Vivek also

turns up.
What follows is a frantic romp with unexpected visitors, mistaken identities, and surprises lurking in every dark cor-ner.The results were chaotic, dis-

astrous and very funny, indeed. The play was wonderfully presented leaving the audience

# Webinar on 'World Justice Day' held at RT varsity

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

webinar on World Justice A webinar oii worid , acception ADay was held on Friday at Rabindra Nath Tagore University . It was organized by the National Service Planning Unit, Women Development Cell and Education and Science

Department. Brijesh Chauhan, Member, Madhva Pradesh Child Rights Protection Commission was present as the keynote speaker. He said that today, we are witnessing incidents of atrocities and exploitation on children around us. One big reason for this is that wrong things keep happening in front of our eves and remain silent. Giving

Board, Poxo Act and Child Labor Prohibition Laws, he called for volunteers of the National Service Scheme to ensure child rights.

Satyendra Kumar Pandey, programme manager of 'Nivasid Bachpan' institution, said that the rights of children are divided into four parts- 1-Right to live, 2- Right to development, 3- Right to participation and 4- Right to protection. Except for the first one, we are not at all sensitive to the remaining three rights. This is why the childhood of every kid is snatched away, their youth also does not blossom fully.

In the programme, social activist Roli Shivhare, who

the youth aware of the nuances of MNREGA law. He said that while MGNREGA can prove to be a milestone in the achievement of the goals of another SDG, on the other hand, it also seems to fulfill the full concept

of social justice.
On the occasion of World Justice Day, this webinar was organized under the guidance of Brahma Prakash, Vice Chancellor of the University and Vijay Singh, the Registrar. The address was welcomed by the Raseo Program Officer

Student Unit, Mr. Gabbar Singh and the thanks were expressed by Rekha Gupta, the Program Officer, Raseo Program Officer Student Unit. Operations were

### MPSD students persent plays Madhyam | Police constable booked Vyayog, Abhigyan Shakuntalam

The students of Madhya Pradesh School of Drama (MPSD) beautifully presented the collage of years old Sanskrit plays before the Bhopalites The plays Madhyam Vyayog and Abhigyan Shakuntalam were presented under class presentation.

The plays were performed under the direction of expert Ramii Bali from Banaras. The students presented the almost 2000 years old drama script Abhigyan Shakuntalam written by the renowned playwright Kalidasa and Madhyam Vyayoga written by Bhasa.

The play is all about the love saga of prince Dushyant

and the protagonist Shakuntala. Shakuntala is the daughter of Maneka and Vishwamitra and Dushyant the prince of Hastinapura. Once Dushyanta went on hunting where he saw Shakuntala and fell for her. He gives her a ring so that she can claim her to be his queen when they meet next and says he will return soon. While Shakuntala is fantasizing about Dushyanta a saint comes to her for food. When she seems to be ignorant the saint curses her that Dushyanta will forget her. Later, the story follows Shakuntala's journey to find her love and

The family encounters Ghatotkacha who is in search of a human for his mother Hidimba's meal. He holds the family captive and asks them to decide who should accompany him. The eldest son of the fam ily being dear to the father, and the youngest to the mother, the middle son is the only choice left to be handed over to Ghatotkacha. Being the middle one he is called 'Madhyama'. Madhyama is thirsty and requests Gatotkacha to be allowed to go to a nearby pond for water. Ghatotkacha agrees Dushyanta to remember him. and asks him to return quick Madhyam Vyayog is about ly. But Madhyama gets delayed a Brahmin family passing through the forest where the and Gatotkacha starts calling

# for raping 25-yr-old girl

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ BHOPAL

amla Nagar have booked a police constable for sexually assaulting and exploiting 25year-old girl for the past one year,

accused is yet to be arrested.

Police have booked Jogendra Gurjar for sexually assaulting and exploiting the victim who came into contact with the accused through her friend.

A case was registered after complaint was lodged by the victim with the Kamla Nagar police stating that the victim came into contact with the accused around a year ago and later after developing relationship he and sexually assaulted her at his friend's house. Later he proposed to marry her and continued to sexually assault

Recently her friend revealed that Jogendra is married and has two children from his marriage. The victim reached Kamla Nagar police and lodged complaint against

Based on the complaint the police have registered a case of sexual assault against the accused policemen and have started further investigation. The accused is vet to be arrested. After committing the heinous crime the accused assured that he would marry her and later continued to sex-

ually exploit her.

Meanwhile, a 25-year-old

exploited for the past ten months at Bilkharia, a complaint was lodged by the victim on Thursday.

According to the police, the victim was sexually assaulted by her brother-in-law who used to live with her and her two children and victim's husband had gone for work in

Vidisha. Based on the complaint and after the preliminary investigation, the police have registered a case under sections 376 and 506 of the IPC. The husband used to visit house and in the month of April last year when she was alone accused raped her and threatened her of life.

### Police book man for duping MP son of ₹27L

The TT Nagar police have booked a person for duping son of former MP to the tune of ₹27.5 lakh by using digital signature fraudulently; accused usurped money collected by

selling fish from Kolar Dam. The accused Sitaram alias Santosh Chouksey used digital signature of company owners Farhan Ahmed and Himanshu Verma and became director of

the company.

In his complaint, victim stated that in the year 2019 on January 1 they entered an agreement with the accused to sell fish from the Kolar Dam and would keep 50 percent of the profit and would be collected in their bank account but after

passing of one year they failed to get and accused collected Rs 27.50 lakh by selling fish from the dam and when they asked accused regarding the same he told that he is director of company and could keep money after which complaint was lodged by the victim. According to the police, the accused had produced orged documents by using digital signatures of the victim.

After the preliminary investigation the police registered a case under sections 420, 467, 468 and 471 of the IPC and started further investigation. The company formed by the victim took contract of fish farming at Kolar dam and entered an ment with the accused of selling fish for the dam which was based on equal sharing of profit.

Although every possible care and caution has been taken to avoid errors or omissions, this publication is being sold on the condition and understanding that information given in this publication is merely for reference and must not be taken as having authority of or binding in any way on the writers, editors, publishers, and printers and sellers who do not owe any responsibility for any damage or loss to any person, a purchaser of this publication or not for the result of any action taken on the basis of this work. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent court and forums in Delhi/New Delhi only. Readers are advised and requested to verify and seek appropriate advice to satisfy themselves about the veracity of any kind of advertisement before responding to any contents published in this newspaper. The printer publisher editor and any employee of the Pioneer Group's will not be held responsible for any kind of claim made by the advertisers of the products & services and shall not be made responsible for any kind of loss consequences and further product-related damages on such advertises.

Printed and published by Syed Naved Alam on behalf of CMYK Printech Limited and Printed at "SHRI BALAJI PRINTERS" Plot No.137,138,139 Sector I Special Industrial Area Govindpura Bhopal - 462023, (M.P.) and published at 152 Saif Complex - 2nd Floor, M.P. Nagar, Zone 1, Bhopal-462011 (M.P.), Telephone: 0755-2550977, Mob.: 09893130364
Editor: Chandan Mitra, RNI Regn. No. MPENG/2004/13703, Regd. No. L-2/BPLON/41/2006-2008, AIR SURCHARGE of Re. 1.00 East: Calcutta, Ranchi, Bhubaneswar, North Leh West: Mumbai & Ahmedabad South: Bangalore & Chennal. Central: Khajuraho, Delhi Office: No. 6, Behind Gulab Bhawan, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110 002.
Phone: 011-40110455, Communication Office: 4th Floor, Sahara Shopping Centre, Faizabad Road, Lucknow 226 016. Telephones: 0522-2346443, 2346444, 2346445.



# **Cabinet nod to life** sentence to food adulterators in MP

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

▼n view of the current circumstances and the need for immediate legislation to check adulteration of food and drugs in Madhya Pradesh, the Cabinet here on Friday approved Penal Law (Madhya Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 2021 to provide for life imprisonment to adulterators

The Cabinet sanctioned an amount of Rs 5 crores for the Shivdrishti project of Maharaja Shiv Chhatrapati Pratishthan Pune.

The Cabinet approved to implement the third phase of the Chief Minister's Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme in 2 years 2020-21 and 2021-22 in place of 4 years. The Cabinet authorized

the Department of Cooperatives to initiate action to pass the Madhya Pradesh Cooperative Societies
(Amendment) Bill, 2021 by
re-introducing it in the
Legislative Assembly.
Decision was taken in the

Cabinet meeting that 41 liquor year 2019-20.

the option of additional period from April 1, 2021 to May 31, 2021, which were first made available by the state government to the licensed liquor groups of the year 2020-21 should be given this option on the condition that the percentage increase given by these groups over the tender price amount for the year 2019-20 in the financial year 2020-21, in addition to the increase of 5 percent by these groups, will have to be given by them in a period of these two months.

For this, by computing the contract price of these groups for the year 2019-20 in proportion to the period of 12 months and increasing it by 5 percent, 20 percent of the price received will be considered as the minimum contract price for the said twomonth period. If the option of this two-month period is not availed by these 41 groups, then the contracts of these 41 groups will be re-executed under the Excise system 2020-21 in the smaller groups prevailing in the

hospitals in a year. To give 27

percent reservation to the backward classes, the govern-ment is putting its side firmly,



From Page 1 The courts of Madhya Pradesh have awarded death sentence in 74 cases against crime against girls and women.

To improve the quality of education in rural areas, every 20-25 kilometers CM Rise schools will be opened which will be equipped with modern facilities of study. Under the Ayushman

Bharat scheme, 2 crore Ayushman cards have been made in the state, through which up to 5 lakh free treat-

# We should

From Page 1
Chouhan said that the Madhya Pradesh government had made food arrangements for migrant labourers passing through Madhya Pradesh from one place to another even during the Corona period. The government has launched Sambal and many other schemes, which provide food grain, treatment and financial support in the condition of an accident to the poor.

Two crore Ayushman cards have been distributed for the treatment of the poor in the state. In this, treatment facility of up to Rs 5 lakh is available to the person in identified hospitals. All the poor will get a Pakka Makan in the next three years. About 3 lakh street vendors of the state have been provided interest-free loan at the rate of Rs 10,000 per ben-eficiary to develop their small business

Chouhan said that one gets blessings by providing food and assistance to the poor. This work should be done in all ways at the government, social institution and individual level.

Chief Minister Chouhan interacted with Shakeel hand cart owner from Morena, Babi Santosh painter from Ujjain fruit seller Mohan from Chhatarpur and Kalu Singh from Indore.

#### Delhi EOW arrests treasurer for cheating home buyers

NEW DELHI: The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Delhi Police has arrested a treasurer cum authorized signatory of Rudra Welfare Society for his alleged involvement in cheating home buyers under the garb of land pooling policy of Delhi Development Authority (DDA).The accused has been identified as Prahlad Aggarwal (45), a resident of Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh (UP). According to Dr O P Mishra, the Joint Commissioner of Police, EOW. various attractive schemes were being floated in the market by different societies and builders in the name of DDA's land pooling policy demanding registration fee and initial payment booking of property.



Minister for Urban Administration & Development and Housing Bhupendra Singh goes through stalls after inaugurating Pari Bazaar at Kamla Park, in Bhopal on Friday

### Vocational edu system to be implemented from Class VI

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

hief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that under the new education policy, system of vocational education is being made from Class VI. Quality education is must for the creation of Atmanirbhar Madhya Pradesh. CM Rise schools with adequate number of teachers labs, libraries and play grounds will be started within a radius of 20 to 25 kilometers in the state.

Buses will be arranged for transportation of students from nearby areas. Chief Minister Chouhan was addressing stu-dents of all schools in the state through the state level virtual programme under the Integrated Scholarship Scheme. Chouhan transferred more than Rs 326.25 crore to the accounts of over 13.80 lakh students of Classes IX to XII through a single click in the programme organized at Mantralaya. Minister of Tribal Affairs and Scheduled Castes Welfare Meena Singh, Minister of State for School Education Inder Singh Parmar, Minister of State for Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare (Independent Charge) Ramkhelavan Patel were

present in the programme.
Chouhan said that the values of knowledge, skill and citizenship are the objectives of education. We benefit from this knowledge tradition accumulated over generations. Skill makes us capable of livelihood management and the values ??of honesty, diligence, dutifulness, strong character and patriotism are cultivated through the values of citizenship. Chief Minister Shri Chouhan told the students that hard work is essential for success by setting a target. One should be enthusiastic during the exam and must not be stressful Chief Minister Chouhan appreciated the continuous efforts made by the teachers in the difficult circumstances of the Corona period to overcome the academic difficulties of the students online

Corporate Office: 201, Raheja Point-1, Near Shamrao Vitthal Bank, Nehru Road, Vakola Santacruz (E), Mumbai-400055.

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.

Adhar Finance Ltd.

And Park Housing Finance Ltd. Authorised Officer: Sandeep Jawrekar, Contact: 9993456347

#### PROPERTY FOR SALE UNDER PROVISIONS OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002 THROUGH PRIVATE TREATY

Whereas the Authorised Officer, Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL) has taken the Possession w's 13(4) of the Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security interest Act, 2002 (The SARFAESI Act, 2002) of the property ("the Secured Asset") given below The Authorised Officer has received offer of Sale from some interested party against the above mentioned Secured Asset under the SARFAESI Act for recovery of the Secured Debt. Now, the Authorised Officer is hereby giving the Notice to Sale of the above said property through Private Treaty in terms of rule 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. The Details of the Account are as follows:

Loan App.No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrowers	Demand Notice Date & Amount	Reserve Price (RP)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Total Outstanding Loan Amount as on date (26.02.2021)	Description of the Secured Asset
(App No. 00125331/ Indore Branch)	Ashutosh Panwar (Borrower), Sima Singh (Co-Borrower)	10.05.2018 & ₹ 12,96,628/-	₹ <b>8,00,000/-</b> (Rs. Eight Lakh Only)	₹ 80,000/- (Rs. Eighty Thousand Only)	(Rs. Fifteen Lakh Forty Four Thousand Eight Hundred	All that part & parcel of property bearing Property Situated At Survey No.119/23, Gram Ghanshyampura Tehsil Ashta District, Sehore, (MP)-466116 <b>Boundaries</b> : East: Plot of Seller, West: 20 Fit wide Road, North: House B/T of Mr. Surendra Singh, South: House B/T of Mr. Arun Parmar
The Authories	d officer will hold on	etion for colo e	of the Consured	Accet on 'Ac in	unbara ia Pania' 'An i	a what is basis' and "Mhatavar is there is basis' AUEL is no

The Authorised officer will hold auction for sale of the Secured Asset on 'As is where is Basis', 'As is what is basis' and 'Whatever is there is basis'. AHFL is not responsible for any liabilities whatsoever pending upon the said property. The Authorised Officer reserves the right to accept or reject the offer without assigning any reason whatsoever and sale will be subject to confirmation by Secured Creditor. On the acceptance of offer of proposed buyer, he/she is required to deposit 25% of accepted price inclusive adjustment of Earnest Money Balance immediately and the balance amount shall be paid by the purchaser within 15 (fifteen) days from date of acceptance of Offer by the Secured Creditor. The proposed buyer is to note that in case of failure of payment of balance amount by him/her within the time specified, the amount already deposited shall stand forfeited and property will be resold accordingly.

This is 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT, 2002 is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Co-Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the above described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Adahar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL) Secured Creditor, will be sold on "is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" and to the amount due to Aadhar Housing Finance Lit., in full before the date of sale, auction is liable to be stopped. The Date of Auction is fixed for 15-03-2021

(Authorised Officer)

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE – AUCTION CUM SALE OF PROPERTIES**

Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrowers and Guarantors that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged for the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Auticorised Officer of Asset Reconstruction Company India Ltd (Aroll) an Asset Reconstruction Company registered with Reserve Bank Of India under the provisions of the SARFAESI Act, 2002. Aroll has acquired from the banks / financial institutions mentioned below the financial assets and has acquired the rights of the Secured Creditor. The assets will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis as per the brief particulars given hereunder as per below mentioned schedule:

Sr. No.	Loan Account No Name of Bank	Name of Original Borrower/ Co-Borrower / Guarantor / Legal Heir	Trust Name	Type/Size in/Nature of Property	Total Outstanding in INR	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in INR (10%)	Reserve Price (Rs.) in INR	Date of Inspection	Date and Time of Auction	Type of Possession
,	16642600000028/ Development Credit Bank Ltd.	Mastram Motors / Gajendra Singh Gurjar / Kamla Devi	Arcil Retail Loan Portfolio 022-A-Trust	Land : N.A. Const/Flat: 1850 Sq. Feet [Freehold]	70,00,873.44/- as on 24/02/2021	3,00,000/-	30,00,000/-	09-03-2021	16-03-2021 12:00 pm	Physical
Sec	ured Property Addr	ess: Plot No. 53/A, Sector	- C, Indra Viha	r Colony, Village Singa	rcholi, Ward No. 2,	Tehsil Huzur, Dis	. Bhopal Pinc	ode: 462011		
	22759000000028/ Development Credit Bank Ltd.	Nilesh Kumar Sharma / Isha Sharma / Sanjay Sharma / Shree Sai Medicore	Arcil Retail Loan Portfolio 022-A-Trust	Land : 2199 Sq. Feet Const/Flat: 2335 Sq. Feet [Freehold]	69,05,742.55/- as on 24/02/2021	4,20,000/-	42,00,000/-	11-03-2021	16-03-2021 12:30 pm	Physical
Sec	ured Property Addr	ess: House No. 10, Maina	Shree Park Co	lony, Ward No. 06, Sar	ral No. 68, Dewas, I	Madhya Pradesh	Pincode:4550	001.		
(3)	DAHLBH00040409 5/Development Credit Bank Ltd.	Mahesh Sharma / Premlata Sharma	Arcil Retail Loan Portfolio 022-A-Trust	Land : N.A. Sq. Feet Const/Flat: 997 Sq. Feet [Freehold]	53,82,432.10/- as on 24/02/2021	1,00,000/-	10,00,000/-	10-03-2021	16-03-2021 13:00 pm	Physical
Sec 105	ured Property Addi /2/1, PH No. 5, Vikas	ress: Flat No. 503, Fifth I s Khand Fanda, Ward No.	Floor, Indus Su 79, Tehsil Huzu	iper, Village Navi Bagi ir, Bhopal Pincode:462	n, Part of Khasra N	10. 99/1/2, 101/	1/1/1, 102/1/	3, 102/2/1,	102/2/3ka/1,	103, 104 8
, ,	DAHLBH00041709 8/Development Credit Bank Ltd.	Sunil Kumar / Durga Vishwakarma	Arcil Retail Loan Portfolio 022-A-Trust	Land: N.A. Sq. Feet Const/Flat: 600 Sq. Feet [Freehold]	31,20,303.88/- as on 24/02/2021	50,000/-	5,00,000/-	10-03-2021	16-03-2021 13:30 pm	Physical
		ress: Flat No. 02, 4th Flo MP Pincode:462046.	or, Narmada i	Block - 06, Sector - D	), Indus Reality, Pa	rt of Plot No. 10	), Industrial A	rea, Ward N	o. 13, Mandi	deep, Tehsil
(-)		Manish Sitoke / Ashish Sitoke / Chandra Shaikhar Sitoke / Dipika Sitoke	Arcil Retail Loan Portfolio 022-A-Trust	Land: 1305 Sq. Feet Const/Flat: 2220 Sq. Feet [Freehold]	85,96,953.86/- as on 25/02/2021	2,62,500/-	26,25,000/-	10-03-2021	16-03-2021 14:00 pm	Physical
Sec Seh	ured Property Addr ore, MP Pincode: 46	ess: House on Part of Su 6001.	rvey No. 683/1	/1/2, Shiv Aradhya Co	olony, P H. No. 37,	Old Ward No. 26,	New Ward N	o. 28, Nagar	Palika Area, 1	ehsil & Dist.
(-)	4300HL35221440 & 4300HL35221447/ Bajaj Finance Ltd.(BFL)	Santosh Kumar Jamoriya	Arcil Retail Loan Portfolio 042-C-Trust	Land: 893 Sq. Feet Const/Flat: 550 Sq. Feet [Freehold]	46,39,158.03/- as on 25/02/2021	2,29,000/-	22,90,000/-	09-03-2021	30-03-2021 12:00 pm	Physical
		11 N . TO FEL !	Oreston Diver	- II Mandal TO MUL-	- Dalast Tabalition	- Dist Disease I D	L! 1000/	00 Mar Jh P		
Sec	ured Property Addr	ess: House No A-76, Elixi	Garden, Phas	e II, ward No 75, VIIIag	je Palasi, Tensii Huz	ur, Dist Bhopai, B	nopai - 4620.	se, madnya i	radesn	

5 Last date for Submission of EMD Same day 2 hours before the Auction 1 Auction Date As prescribed herein above Place for Submission of Bids and Place of G. Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad - 380 006, Gujarat. All payments including EMD to be made by way of DD, RTGS, NEFT Tel.: 079 - 40306301 / 02 Auction payable at

Bids can be submitted online / in person depending upon the Covid situation in Branch locality Name in whose favour Demand The name as shown in Trust Column karnal.mishra@arcil.co.in, piyush.gupta@arcil.co.in. Web-Site For Auction www.arcil.co.in 11am - 4pm Note: Date & time of Contact Persons with Mr. Kamal Mishra: 9819820760, Mr. Plyush Gupta: 9687657072. inspection may be changed in view of Covid-19 situation

\* A bidder may, on his own choice, avail the facility of online participation in the auction by making application in prescribed format which is available along with the offer/tenderdocument on the website address mentioned herein above, and shall be subject to the terms and conditions contained in the tender document. The Tender Document and detailed Terms & Conditions for the Auction may be downloaded from our website www.arcil.co.in or the same may also be collected from the concerned Branch office of Arcil as stated above. Please note that sale shall be subject to the terms and conditions as stated in the Bid Document. Sale is strictly subject to terms and conditions incorporated in this advertisement and the prescribed Bid/Tender Document. The Authorized Officer reserves the right to reject any/all bids without assigning any reason. This notice is also to be treated as a notice under Rule 8 and 9 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002.

Authorized Officer struction Company (India) Limited 3. निविदा क्रय करने की अंतिम तिथि 06.03.2021 है।

ASSET RECONSTRUCTION COMPANY (INDIA) LTD. CIN No.: U65999MH2002PLC134884 • www.arcil.co.in Registered Office: The Ruby,10th Floor,29 Senapati Bapat Marg, Mumbai - 400028. • Tel.: 022-66581300 / 399
Branch Address: 610, 6th Fir., Sun Square, Nr. Hotel Regenta Central Antrim, Off C. G. Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380 006. Tel.: 079-40306301

#### कार्यालय आयुक्त आदिवासी, विकास मध्यप्रदेश

क्र./वाहन/19/2021/3905 शासकीय वाहनों की (द्वितीय) खुली नीलामी

भोपाल, दिनांक 18.02.2021

सर्व साधारण को सचित किया जाता है कि आयक्त आदिवासी विकास मध्यप्रदेश भोपाल के निम्नलिखत वाहन के पलेखन उप रांत "जहां है, जैसा है" को स्थिति में विक्रय की (द्वितीय) खुली नीलामी दिनांक 04 मार्च 2021 को समर दोपहर 12.00 बजे की जावेगी।

	वाहन का प्रकार जहां है जैसे है की स्थिति में		अमानत राशि रेखांकित ड्राफ्ट के रूप में	अपसेट प्राईज	जहां वाहन रखा है निरीक्षण स्थल
1.	एम.पी.02-ए.व्ही. 0663 टेम्पो टेरेक्स	2004 ভীজল	5000.00 (पांच हजार मात्र)		प्राचार्यं, शासकीय गुरूकुलम आवासीय विद्यालय परिसर बावडिया कला शाहपुरा थाने के पीछे भोपाल। मो. नं. 9407065210

#### **नीलामी की शर्ते:**

वाहन की बोली हेतु अमानत राशि अरेखांकित बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में आयुक्त आदिवासी विकास भोपाल को देय हो उसे बोली लगाने की तिथि से एक दिवस पूर्व कार्यालय समय में दिनांक 03 मार्च 2021 तक अनिवार्य रूप से प्रस्तुत करने पर ही बोली लगाने की पात्रता होगी।

बोली की अमानत राशि का ड्राफ्ट नीलामी की समाप्ति पर असफल बोली लगाने वाले को वापस लौटा दी जायेगी और उच्चतम बोली की राशि जमा करने पर अमानत राशि का बैंक ड्राफ्ट लौटा दिया जायेगा।

- जिस बोलीदार की उच्चतम बोली स्वीकार उन्हें वाहन आधिपत्य आदेश प्राप्त होने के पूर्व वाहन की सम्पूर्ण राशि एक ाचन जाराचार को उच्चार बार्सा, ब्लाक्त उन बार जाराच्या जारेरा हो के तुच बाहर की समूच सार रूप मुश्त आठ दिवस के अंदर कार्यालय में डिमांड ड्राफ्ट से जमा करनी होगी अन्यथा अमानत राशि राजसात कर ली जायेगी। बाहन का उपयोग करने से पूर्व आर.टी.ओ. भोपाल के नाम, पंजीयन क्रमांक स्वयं के व्यय पर प्राप्त करना होगा।
- वाहन से संबंधित दस्तावेज बोलीदार को समय पर क्षेत्रीय परिवहन अधिकारी भोपाल से प्राप्त करना होगा। इस कार्यालय से वाहन का विक्रय पत्र जारी किया जायेगा।
- समक्ष अधिकारी को किसी भी बोली को बिना कारण बताये अस्वीकार करना तथा नीलामी का आंशिक या पूर्ण रूप से रोक लेने अथवा निरस्त करने का अधिकार होगा।
- बोलीदार द्वारा नीलामी में उपस्थित होकर किसी वाहन का क्रय करने हेतु बोली लगाने की स्थिति में नीलामी संबंधी सम्पृण शर्त स्वीकार कर ली गयी है, ऐसा माना जायेगा तथा शर्तों के विरूद्ध ऐसा कोई न्यायालयीन वाद मान्य नहीं किया जायेगा (आयुक्त द्वारा अनुमोदित)

G-19969/20 आदिवासी विकास, मध्यप्रदेश

#### OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER CAPITAL PROJECT (C) CIRCLE, CPADMN., E-5, ARERA COLONY, BHOPAL

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

in MP PWE rs are invited from registered contractors under centra works. Details of the work and NIT is available on the are to be submitted Physically Strengthening of CC road in Gas Rahat colony 630 Otrs from water tank to Durga Mandir ward No 77, Bhopal Strengthening of BT road from Baglamukhh Mandir to 80 ft main road Vishwakarma nagar face-II, Ward No 78, Bhopal Rs. 30,65,000 cell dt 22-02-2021 Rs. 35,14,000/ (Rs. Thirty five lak)

Tender form (documents) can be downloaded after online payment of the cost of the form from the above versible. The last date of purchase, down load and online submission of tender form shall be 08/03/202 vpto 5.30 PM. Detailed NIT and other details are available on the website.

SUPERINTENDENT ENGINEER CAPITAL PROJECT (C) CIRCLE, C.P. ADMINISTRATION, E-5, ARERA COLONY, BHOPAL PH: 0755-2463365

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.

G-20068/20

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.
Corporate Office: 201, Raheja Point-1, Near Shamrao Vitthal Bank, Nehru Road, Vakola Santacruz (E), Mumbai-400055

दो गज की दूरी, मास्क है जरूरी।

hopal Branch: 2 Nd Floor, Alankar Complex, Plot No.-10 & 11, MP Nagar Zone-II, Bhopal - 462001 (M.P.)

# APPENDIX IV POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s). Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of AHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

S. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Co Borrower(s) (Name of the Branch)	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Demand Notice Date & Amount	Date of Possession
1	(App No. 00030141/ Bhopal Branch) Mahesh Sharma (Borrower), Sangita Sharma (Co-Borrower)	All that part & parcel of property bearing, South Part Of Plot No. 487 and North, Part Of Plot No. 488, Shiv Dham Colony Vill- Baradwari, Ward No.05, Rajgarh, (MP) -465661  Boundaries: East: Plot No 491 & 492, West: Colony Way, North: Northern Part of Plot No487, South: Northern Part of Plot No488	19-04-2019 ₹ 10,30,180/- Rs. Ten Lakh Thirty Thousand One Hundred Eighty Only.	23.02.2021
2	(App No. 00187245 & 00187387/Bhopal Branch) Pradeep Singh Gurjar (Borrower), Manjesh Devi (Co-Borrower) Layak Singh Gurjar (Guarantor)	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Flat No M-4 On Plot No E-7/716 2-floor, Swapnil Aprtment Ward No 49 Arera Colony, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh-462010 Boundaries: East: Open, West: Flat No. 05, North: Flat No06, South: Open	17-10-2019 ₹ 14,89,491/- & ₹ 1,13,525/-	26.02.2021

Date : 27.02.2021

#### कार्यालय कार्यपालन यंत्री राजधानी परियोजना खण्ड क्रमांक-2 लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकीय विभाग, भोपाल

ई-मेल eephedcp2bpl@mp.gov.in

क्र. 100,101,102,103,104,105,106,107/तक/का.यं./रा.परि.खण्ड-2/लोस्वायांवि/ भोपाल दिनांक- 19.02.2021 निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

निम्नलिखित कार्य की निविदा ई-टेण्डरिंग पद्धति से ई-प्रोक्योरमेन्ट पोर्टल http://mptenders.gov.in पर आमंत्रित है। निविदा का विवरण निम्नानुसार है:-

я.	ऑनलाईन निविदा क्र.	कार्य का नाम	अनुमानित राशि (रू. लाख में)	धरोहर राशि (रूपये)	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	2021_PHED _130160	Repairing of damaged manhole chamber l/c desilting and cleaning of sewer lines constructed under BWL project at section No. 5 of Sub Division 5, Bhopal.	4,99,185=00	9,984=00	2000=00	30 दिन वर्षाकाल सहित
2	2021_PHED _130164	Repairing Reconstruction and Cleaning of sewer line and manhole at North T.T. Nagar 45 Bunglow area, Bhopal.	7,04,919=00	14,098=00	2000=00	30 दिन वर्षाकाल सहित
3	2021_PHED _130173	Repairing and Rewinding work of 15 H.P. Centrifugal Pump set Kirloskar Make and D.G. set at Khanugaon Sewage Pump House No. 1 Bhopal.	4,06,830=00	8,137,=00	2000=00	30 दिन वर्षाकाल सहित
4	2021_PHED _130322	Repairing and Reconstruction of damage sewage channel manhole and damaged stone pillars at Shahpura Oxidation Pond, Bawadiya Kala, Bhopal.	6,70,903=00	13,418=00	2000=00	30 दिन वर्षाकाल सहित
5	2021_PHED _130332	Coloring and painting work of Boundary Wall, P.T.U., Channel and departmental Quarters at Badwai and Gondarmau S.T.P., Bhopal.	5,65,113=00	1,302=00	2000=00	60 दिन वर्षाकाल सहित
6	2021_PHED _130341	Providing and Fixing of Sluice Gate in place of damaged sluice gate at Gondarmau Sewage Treatment Plant Bhopal.	3,95,732=00	7,915=00	2000=00	30 दिन वर्षाकाल सहित
7	2021_PHED _130349	Colouring and painting work at Tilak Nagar Sewage Pump House Bhopal.	3,50,137=00	7,003=00	2000=00	60 दिन वर्षाकाल सहित
8	2021_PHED _130356	Providing and Fixing of Sluice Gate in place of damaged sluice gate at Badwai Sewage Treatment Plant, Bhopal,	6,03,947=00	2,079=00	2000=00	30 दिन वर्षाकाल सहित

- निविदा प्रपत्र की निर्धारित राशि एवं धरोहर राशि एवं अन्य आवश्यक दस्तावेज ऑनलाईन प्रस्तुत करने होगें एवं अन्य
- समस्त विस्तृत जानकारी mptenders.gov.in पर देखी जा सकती है। निविदा सेशोधन केवल वेबसाईट पर ही दर्शाया जावेगा। पृथक से समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशन नहीं किया जावेगा।

राजधानी परियोजना खण्ड क्र.-2, लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकीय विभाग, भोपाल

G-19886/20

दो गज की दूरी, मास्क है जरूरी।

कार्यपालन यंत्री

# 16K Covid cases for 2nd day in a row



A total of 1,56,825 deaths

have been reported in the country so far, including 51,993 from Maharashtra, 12,483 from Tamil Nadu, 12,116 from Kyrnatoko 10,005

12,316 from Karnataka, 10,905

from Delhi, 10,260 from West Bengal, 8,723 from Uttar Pradesh, and 7,168 from

Meanwhile, the country

The vaccination will take

place at around 10,000 gov-ernment facilities which will be

free of cost. However, at private

hospitals, beneficiaries will have to pay for vaccination.

The Home Ministry on Friday said the existing Covid-19 guidelines will remain in force till March 31.

In a statement, the

Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said while there has

been a substantial decline in

the active and new Covid-19

cases, there is need to maintain surveillance, contain-

Andhra Pradesh.

PNS NEW DELHI

Fresh Covid-19 cases are showing a worrying upward trend over the past one week with India recording its single-day increase of above 16,000 for the second consecutive day on Friday. The infection tally rose to 1,10,63,491, while the recoveries have surged to 1,07,50.680.

has so far since January 26, 2021, vaccinated 1,34,72,643 According to data from the Union Health Ministry on Friday, a total 16,577 infections healthcare and frontline workwere reported in a day, while ers. However, no vaccination the death toll increased to 1,56,825 with 120 new fataliwill take place on Saturday and Sunday as the Centre will ties. As per the data, the Union Territory of Lakshadweep has reported its first death. The 120 enable transition of CoWIN app from version 1.0 to 2.0 ahead of the commencement new fatalities include 56 from Maharashtra, 14 from Kerala, of vaccination from March 1 for people above 60 years of age and those above 45 years with comorbidities, said the

13 from Punjab.

The number of active cases increased to 1,55,986, which accounts for 1.41 per cent of the total infections, the data stated. The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 1,07,50,680 which translates into a national recovery rate of 97.17 per cent. The case fatality rate

stood at 1.42 per cent. India's Covid-19 tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7; 30 lakh on August 23; 40 lakh on September 5; 23; 40 lakn on September 5; and 50 lakh on September 16. It went past 60 lakh on September 28; 70 lakh on October 11; 80 lakh on October 29; 90 lakh on November 20; and the onecrore mark on December 19.

According to the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), 21,46,61,465 samples have been tested up to February 25, of which 8,31,807

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), India's apex scientific research organisation, head Shekhar Mande on Friday bat-ted for US based Pfizer and BioNtech's Covid-19 vaccine saying that he will try to "convince" the Government to initiate talks with the pharma giant and find out ways to bring it back for vaccination of people in India.

Not only Pfizer, he said, the government should also consider inviting Johnson & Johnson, Sputnik and Moderna to India and asserted that India will need at least 4 other vaccines to help finish immunisation drive faster.

Pfizer had applied for an

emergency-use nod for its Covid vaccine in India, but withdrew its application earlier this month.

Mande's comment comes in the backdrop of a study that said that a single dose of Pfizer and BioNtech's Covid-19 vaccine cuts the number of asymptomatic infections and could significantly reduce the risk of transmission of the virus. In fact, Pfizer had also announced earlier this week that its Covid-19 vaccine can

MHA extends existing Covid-19 guidelines till March 31

**COVID-19 Guidelines** 



be stored at warmer tempera-

Earlier, the vaccine required storage temperatures between -80°C and -60°C, which made the vaccine less viable for India.

CSIR bats for Pfizer, says it will convince

Centre to bring it back for vaccination

Also, the requirement of multiple options of vaccine candidates in India will soon go up as India Wednesday said private hospitals could start vaccination now.

"I am not aware of the issues due to which Pfizer had withdrawn the application but now the regulator and company should try to find a middle way. Pfizer is per-forming very well in other countries," he told a news

agency.

Pfizer was the first pharmaceutical firm to apply for emergency-use authorisation However, on February 5, 2021 the company decided to withdraw its application.

According to the minutes of the meeting of the Subject Expert Committee (SEC), the expert panel that recommends vaccines to India's drug regulator for approval, it had turned down Pfizer's propos-al as the company did not show interest in conducting bridging trials' in India.

The firm has not proposed any plan to generate safety and immunogenicity data in Indian population, the minutes read.

However, Mande said he would not like to comment on why the company withdrew its application. "I want both of them, the company and the regulator to find a middle way," he said, according to the

fully overcome the pandem-

Territories have also been advised to speed up the vac-

cination of the target population so as to break the

chain of transmission and overcome the pandemic.

demarcated carefully and

prescribed containment mea-sures will be strictly followed.

Accordingly, containment

The States and Union

# Chargesheet against 11 Qaeda/AQIS operatives



PNS I NEW DELHI

The NIA on Friday filed a chargesheet before Special NIA Court here against 11 members of Al Qaeda/AQIS from West Bengal and Kerala under various IPC Sections and provisions of the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act.

Those chargesheeted are Murshid Hasan alias Sofiq, Mosaraf Hoseen, Mainul Mandal, Lea Yean Ahmed alias Leion, Najmus Sakib, Iyakub Biswas, Samim Ansari, Abu Sufian, Atiur Rahman, Al Mamun Kamal and Abdul Momin Mandal. They have been charged for criminal conspiracy, waging war against the nation, collecting arms with intention to wage war against the Government of India besides provisions of UA (P) A and Arms Act.

The instant case was regis-tered following inputs about an Al Qaeda inspired module sprouting and operating in West Bengal and Kerala under the leadership of Murshid Hasan alias Sofiq and that the members of this module were in an advanced stage of conin an advanced stage of conspiracy to execute terrorist attacks in different parts of the

In synchronised raids conducted on September 19, 2020 across West Bengal and Kerala, nine alleged terrorists were arrested. Subsequently, two more terror operatives were arrested from West Bengal on August 26, 2020 and

November 1, 2020. "Investigation has revealed that Murshid Hasan alias Sofiq was in touch with Al Qaeda handlers based in Pakistan and Bangladesh and had received instructions along with radical propaganda material through encrypted social media plat

### NIA chargesheets 1 in UP espionage case

The NIA has filed a supple-mentary chargesheet against accused Rajakbhai Kumbhar of Mundra, Gujarat in an espionage case of Uttar Pradesh relating to passing on defence secrets to ISI opera-

Kumbhar has been charged for Indian Penal Code Sections relating to criminal conspiracy and waging war against Government of India besides provisions of the besides provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

The case was initially registered as FIR No. 01/2020 dated January 19, 2020 at Police Station-ATS, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow in which accused Md. Rashid of Mughal Sarai, Chandoli, UP was arrested on January 19, 2020 for supplying sensitive information, photos and videos of vital installations of strategic importance to ISI operatives based in Pakistan. The NIA had re-regis-

Hasan along with his other associates conspired to radicalise and recruit more individuals into the terrorist organ-isation Al Qaeda," the NIA said

The group members had

tered this case as RC-03/2020/NIA/LKW on April 6, 2020 and took up the investigation.

Earlier, a chargesheet was filed against Rashid on July 16 last year for his role in supplying sensitive, tactical and strategically important information about vital installations and movement of Indian security forces to his ISI handlers based in

chargesheeted "The chargesheeted accused Rajakbhai Kumbhar was arrested on September 30 last year. Further investigation had revealed that he had vis ited Pakistan twice on legal documents. During his return in the course of second visit, Kumbhar had come in contact with Pakistani ISI operatives Hamid alias Asim and he had joined the conspiracy with the co-accused. He transferred funds to accused Md. Rashid for the information he had provided to the ISI operatives in Pakistan," the NIA said in a statement.

in a statement.

The accused persons allegedly disseminated radical material through social media and encrypted chat platforms with an intention to radicalise and recruit others for establishing an Islamic State by waging violent jihad in India,

Investigation has also revealed that the group mem-bers planned to attack individuals whom they consider

conducted a series of conspir-atorial meetings for raising funds for the purchase of arms

CBI, ED raid multiple

in coal pilferage scam

locations across Bengal

and ammunition/explosive materials, radicalising and recruiting more members and charting out the future course of action including establishing a Markaz (a training centre for providing religious and weapons training to new recruits). The accused persons were also in active communication with an arms dealer through their foreign based handlers and were planning to receive a consignment of sophisticated arms and ammu-nition in the national capital.

"However, their nefarious plans were obviated by their timely arrest by NIA. The accused persons were planning to attack among others, an India based Bangladeshi blogger for his views expressed on social media," it added.

### ment and caution so as to Air travel sans baggage to be cheaper soon

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

 $F^{\text{lying within the country}}_{\text{without any check-in bag-}}$ gage could soon get cheaper. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation has issued a circular, allowing airlines to give concessions in ticket prices to concessions in ticket prices to passengers who carry no bag-gage or only cabin baggage. The new rules will provide tickets for cheap for those pas-sengers travelling with no baggage or just cabin baggage. However, the cabin bag

However, the cabin bag-gage has to be within the permissible weight limit. The services that will now be chargeable on the opt-in basis include preferential seating, meal or snacks or drinking charges, sports equipment charges, musical instrument carriage, fee for special decla-ration of valuable baggage ( allow for higher unit on carrier liability), charge for using airline lounges. Currently, a passenger can carry up to 7 kilograms of cabin baggage and 15 kilograms of check-in

said the government has decided to unbundle certain services and make them



based on feedback received from passengers. The DGCA said that "as part of airline baggage policy, scheduled air-lines will be allowed to offer free baggage allowance as well as "zero baggage/no check-in baggage fares".

This will be subject to the

condition that the passenger booking ticket under such fare scheme is made aware of the charges that shall be applicable if the passenger turns up with the baggage for check in at the airline counter. These applicable charges shall gage.
In a circular, the DGCA
d the government has
cided to unbundle certain
d the ime of booking of ticket
and also to be printed on the ticket," DGCA said in a cir-

The move comes as an effort to make flying more affordable and accessible to passengers. It is noted that domestic airlines have seen 10-12 per cent drop in bookings as state governments have tightened measures to revent the spread of Covid-

19 in the last two weeks. Under the new rule, if a passenger declares s/he will be travelling with no check-in baggage or only with cabin baggage within the permissible weight limit, air-lines can offer tickets at lesswill have to be made at the time of the booking of the ticket. "As part of airline baggage policy, scheduled air-lines will be allowed to offer

free baggage allowance as well as "zero baggage/no check in baggage fares," the DGCA said in its circular. Passengers will be charged if they choose "no check-in baggage" fare and turn up at

baggage" fare and turn up at baggage lare and turn up at the airport with check-in lug-gage. "These applicable charges shall be reasonable; prominently displayed to the passenger at the time of booking of ticket and also to be printed on the ticket," the DGCA said. It also allowed unbundling of other services like preferential seating and said passengers should be

charged if they opt them.
"On the basis of various feedback received, it is felt that many times these services provided by the airlines may not be required by the passengers while travelling. Considering the fact that unbundling of services and charges thereto has the potential to make basic fare more affordable and provide consumer an option of paying for the services it has been decided by the gov-ernment to allow these services to be unbundled and charged separately on opt-in basis," the DGCA added.

### Judicial probe sought into alleged suicide of Dadra and Nagar Haveli MP

PNS NEW DELHI

The Congress on Friday demanded a judicial enquiry into the alleged suicide of Dadra and Nagar Haveli MP Mohan Delkar in Mumbai earlier this week and asked why the Centre had not acted when he repeatedly raised the issue of "harass ment" by the Union Territory's administrator.
The Opposition party

claimed the seven-time MP, who was found dead in a hotel room, had named the administrator, Praful Khoda Patel, and other officials of the union terother officials of the union ter-ritory in his purported suicide note. According to Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera, Delkar had in the past written letters to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah and other senior leaders, flagging the "harassment" he was facing at the other officials of Dadra and Nagra Haveli. "He (Delkar) had enumer-

ated the manner in which he was being humiliated and harassed



The Opposition party claimed the seven-time MP, had named the administrator, Praful Khoda Patel, and other officials of the union territory in his purported suicide note

ever since he won the Lok Sabha elections in 2019 as an independent candidate," Khera said at AICC Press conference.

"This is a set template of the Government in power (at the Centre). If you lose elections, you try and harass, you try and intimidate through agencies, governors, lieutenant governors and administrators. They try and control him or her. If they agree with you (government) make them join you, if not then these are the tragic results,

Khera alleged.

at various places in West Benga in connection with the multicrore coal pilferage scam, sources in them said. CBI sources said its sleuths raided the official and resi-

PTI ■ KOLKATA

dential premises of business-man Randhir Kumar Barnwal in Kolkata. has started searches at Durgapur and Asansol and also in the city.

 $\mathbf{I}$ nvestigation agencies CBI and Enforcement Directorate

on Friday conducted joint raids

Both the agencies are con-

**ED** sources said the agency has started searches at Durgapur and **Asansol and also** in the city

dering angle of the scam.

CBI has already examined Trinamool Congress MP for her alleged involvement in the coal scam. Banerjee in the nephew of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

currently probing the scam.

While CBI is looking after the criminal aspect of it, ED is delving into the money laundelving into

### Can't allow sexual harassment cases to be swept under carpet: SC

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Friday said it cannot allow sexual harassment cases to be "swept under the carpet" and asked a retired District Judge of Madhya Pradesh to face "in-house departmental inquiry" instituted by the high court on the allegations levelled against him by a junior woman judicial officer.

"We cannot allow sexual

harassment cases to be swept under the carpet like this," a bench headed by Chief Justice

The Bench, also comprising justices A S Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian, rejected vehement submissions of lawyer Balasubramanium, appearing



stated that she wanted "conciliation". In the proceedings con-

ducted through video conferencing, the bench made clear that it is not going to interfere with the Madhya Pradesh High Court order of an inquiry and said that as on date the former judge stood "convicted" and there may be a chance of his acquittal if he "You are walking on a very thin ice you can fall any time. You may have a chance in the inquiry they conduct

you may acquitted," the bench said, asking him to join the inquiry.

The counsel for the former judge then withdrew the appeal against the high court"s

Earlier, the top court had observed that "to flirt with a junior official is not acceptable conduct for a judge".

It, however, had taken te of submission of Balasubramanium that sexual harassment allegations were levelled against the former judge only when he was in the zone consideration for elevation as a high court judge.

### EC orders 3-member panel for poll security plan

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

With the possibility of large-scale violence, the Election Commission (EC) has directed that the election security plan of poll-going States be jointly decided by a committee comprising the chief electoral officer, State police nodal officer and state Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) coordinator. According to officials, over 6,600 polling stations in West Bengal have been identi-fied as 'vulnerable' and 715 critical ahead of the Assembly elections while over 2,654 polling stations have been identified as 'critical' and 338 vul-

nerable in Assam. According to EC, the first such formal arrangement that will apply to all future polls, will ensure randomisation of the state police and CAPF personnel, besides their optimum and effective utilisation in the interest of free and fair and fair elecEC, in a communication sent to chief electoral officers of all all states and UTs on February 8, directed that the committee comprising state CEO, state police nodal officer

and CAPF coordinator, shall periodically/ frequently meet during the polls to monitor deployment and ensure effective and optimum utilisation of police and security forces. The arrangements made for the security forces within the pollbound state. According to the Chief Election Commissioner Sunil

Arora, all critical and vulner-able areas have been identified and advance teams have been already deployed across all four states and one union territory Puducherry going to the polls. "Also, webcasting arrangements will be in place at polling stations in critical and vulnerable areas, while

adequate CAPF (Central Armed Police Forces) deploy-ment will be ensured for the

assembly polls, he said.

The CEC Arora said that
the CAPFs/SAP shall also be deployed in the Expenditure Sensitive Constituencies and other vulnerable areas and critical polling stations as per the assessment of ground realities by the CEOs of Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Puducherry, in consultation with the various stakeholders "All critical events will be video-graphed. District Election Officers will arrange sufficient number of video and digital cameras and camera teams for the purpose," he

said. .. Vulnerable polling stations have been identified on the basis of several parameters which include a polling booth that has recorded more than 90% polling is classified under vulnerable category.

#### SC nixes plea challenging Centre's order making FASTag mandatory



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday refused to entertain a plea challenging the Centre's decision to make FASTag mandatory for all the vehicles

The Government has made FASTag mandatory from February 15 midnight and any vehicle not fitted with it will be charged double the toll at elec-

tronic toll plazas across the country, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has said.

A three-judge Bench of Chief Justice SA Bobde, Justice Bopanna and Justice V Ramasubramanian asked the petitioner to approach the Delhi High Court and granted the petitioner liberty to withdraw the plea.



# **UDF** has an edge, **LDF** chances dim: Observers

s kick-off began for the As kick-off began for the April 6 Assembly polls in Kerala on Friday, poll observers in the State are of the view that the Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) has a slight edge over the CPI(M)-led Left Democratic Front.

Veteran scribe and author P Rajan, who led Mathrubhumi daily's editorial team for four decades and continues writing and commenting on political and social issues, is of the view that events in the last one week witnessed by the State have cast an uncertainty over the poll prospects of the LDF.
"Chief Minister Pinarayi

Vijayan himself had to announce the cancellation of the MoU signed with the US based EMCC, a dubious company and the Kerala Shipping and Inland

Mumbai cops launch manhunt

Having established that SUV that lay abandoned near Industrialist Mukesh Ambani's

skyscraper mansion "Antilia" in south Mumbai

on Thursday evening was a stolen car and the

gelatin sticks found in it were manufactured in a Nagpur facility, the crime branch sleuths of

the Mumbai police on Friday launched a man-hunt for two unidentified culprits behind the

sensational plot.

A day after the 20 gelatin sticks and a let-

ter were recovered from a Scorpio that was found abandoned in the vicinity of Mukesh Ambani's 27-storey residence "Antilia" on Carmichael Road in south Mumbai, the Gamdevi police registered an FIR in the case,

while the Mumbai Crime Branch sleuths landed "strong leads" in their investigations in the

case. The two early leads that the investigations

found in the case were: the SUV - a Scorpio

used in the crime had been stolen from Vikroli

in north-east Mumbai and e the gelatin sticks

found in the car were manufactured at Nagpur-

based firm M/s Solar Explosives Ltd.
Informed sources in the Mumbai police said

that the Scorpio used in the crime had been

stolen from a service road near the Vikhroli

Airoli junction. The owner of the car has told

the police that his car broke down near Vikhroli

Airoli junction while he was on his way from Thane to Mumbai. The owner parked the car on the wayside of the road. On the following

afternoon, when he returned to take the car for repairs, he found the vehicle was missing. He lodged a complaint with the Vikhroli police.

number illegible. However, the police retrieved the chassis number and identified the owner.

In one of the multiple CCTV footages from the area around the crime spot showed the sus-

pect who parked the car at the site, but he has not been identified as yet as he sported a mask

on his face and had covered his head with a

a forensic analysis

The purported threat letter -- written in bro-

ken English and Hindi – that was recovered from the seized SUV was addressed to "Nita

Bhabhi aur Mukesh bhyya aur femili". The culprits said that what they were witnessing was a mere "trailer". "Be alert. We have made all

arrangements to blow up the entire Ambani

"An FIR has been registered and investiga-tions were in progress," deputy commissioner of police (operations) and Mumbai Police

spokesperson S Chaitanya said.Chaitanya, how-

ever, declined to comment on the contents of the letter, saying: he said: "I cannot comment

on the letter. It is part of the investigations. We

Having confirmed that the gelatine sticks found in the car were manufactured at a Nagpur-based firm, the investigators have

sought the details of sale of the seized gelatin

sticks "Since only packets and not the individ-

ual sticks are bar-coded, it will take us time to

confirm who bought it or whether these were also stolen," a senior police officer said.,

 $T^{\text{he scenic resorts of Gulmarg and Pahalgam in}}_{\text{Kashmir valley are witnessing huge rush of}}$ 

tourists and adventure sport lovers who are flock-

ing there to participate in the ongoing winter car

nival and sporting events.
On Friday Prime Minister Narendra Modi

delivered the inaugural address at 2nd edition of Khelo India National Winter Games-2021 through

Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha and Union Minister of State (I/C) for Youth Affairs and Sports,

Kiren Rijiju also addressed the huge gathering dur-

ing the inaugural ceremony of the mega event. From February 26 to March 02, 2021, more than 600 Athletes from all over the country are par-

ticipating in different winter-sports disciplines including Alpine Skiing, Nordic Ski,

Snowboarding, Snow Mountaineering, Ice Hockey, Ice Skating, Ice Stock and Snow Shoe.

that the second edition of Khelo India Winter

Games is a major step towards making Jammu and Kashmir a hub of the Winter Games.

In his address, the Prime Minister observed

Khelo India Winter Games 2021 inaugurated in J&K

", the letter read.

**MOHIT KANDHARI** ■ JAMMU

virtual mode.

The seized car has meanwhile been sent for

hoodie that he wore.

After the theft of the SUV, the miscreants damaged the chassis plate and tried to make the

for 2 absconding culprits

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

sea fishing. Similarly, the ongo-ing agitation by rank holders of the Kerala Public Service Commission for appointment in Government service and the goofing up of the way the administration treated the job seekers too will play a significant role in coming days," said Rajan.

He said he does not expect a sweep by the UDF which was witnessed during the Lok Sabha election. The UDF had won all but one seat in the 20 Lok Sabha constituencies from the State, "The situation has changed because the minorities which voted en masse for the Congress hoping that the party would regain the power which it lost in 2014 have understood that the Grand Old Party is no more the same entity. The CPI(M) has said that it made a mistake in handling the Sabarimala temple

State," said Rajan. N Prasanth, the managing director of KSINC, who has been alleged by the chief minister and J Mercykutty, the fish eries minister, of signing the deal with the US company for deep sea fishing, created a sensation when he warned all that he would not take it lying down. "I will disclose all details associated with the signing of the MoU at the right time," he had told

reporters on Friday.

Hari Kartha, senior scribe and commentator, is of the view that Wednesday night's murder of RSS leader Nandhu by SDPI activists at Alapuuzha has upset Hindus all over the State. "What I understand is that though the police was present in the spot, they did not do anything to save

#### Explosive-laden SUV found near Ambani's house was stolen: Police

**DEEPAK KUMAR JHA III** NEW DELHI

of Uttar Pradesh while it prepares to reap bene-fits ahead of the assembly elections next year under the leadership of party general secretary Priyanka Gandhi. To being with the manifes to commit-tee of the grand old party will visit Bahraich this people's manifesto'.

Thursday in the presence of Priyanka, who also is general secretary in-charge of the state to brainstorm how to take on the might of incumbent gov-ernment led by Yogi Adityanath and overall the

is 312 while Congress is just seven while other two big regional players, Samajwadi Party and BSP who have ruled back to back in the State has been downsized to 49 and 19 respectively. The last best of the Congress in UP was in 1980 at 309 seats followed by 269 in 1985.

while the country witness large scale unemploy-ment, poor economy and highest ever inflation besides several restlessness in all spheres across the country, Modi and BJP still remains popular and common man issues have been eclipsed by

AICC sources said the leaders under the chairmanship of former Union Minister Salman Khurshid deliberated to prepare a "people's manifesto" and on strategise for the elections right from now onwards. Besides Khurshid, who is party's UP manifesto committee chief, Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinate were among those

next year, Priyanka has stepped up her efforts to revive the party in the politically crucial State where the party has been struggling to make a presence in the past three decades. In recent days, Priyanka has been attending and addressing kisan

a farmer who had died during the January 26 trac-tor rally violence, and last week she addressed farm-ers at Mathura and also visited the Vrindavan temple and before that she took also a holy dip at Sangam in Prayagraj. She is scheduled to visit

towards her as a ray of hope in the same fashion the State loved her grandmother former PM Indira Gandhi," said a senior Congress leader who is closely associated to Team Priyanka with the sole agenda to win back the confidence in the State which sends the maximum number of Lok Sabha MPs.

print shrunk further with the fall of its government in Puducherry. The party is now left on its own only in Punjab, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh while as coalition in Maharashtra and Iharkhand. Crucial states like Madhya Pradesh which the party won over after long stint was lost due to acute internal squabbling and similar situation prevailed in another state Rajasthan.

The Prime Minister said that winter games in

Experience from this winter games would help

With two Khelo India Centres of Excellence and Khelo India Centres in all 20 districts com-

Speaking on the occasion, Lieutenant

Jammu & Kashmir would help in developing a new sporting ecosystem and would instill new spirit and

enthusiasm in the tourism sector in Jammu &

the players while participating in the Winter Olympics, said the PM.

ing up in J&K, the UT would become the centre

Governor, Manoj Sinha called upon the participating sportspersons to spread the message of

Peace, Unity, Goodwill, Love and Empowerment. Let us share this experience of unifying power

of sports with the world, remarked the Lt

Governor. Gulmarg has been acknowledged as a

promising Winter-sports destination in the International circuit. Khelo India Winter Games

is not merely an event, it is a mission to bring

together the youth from all over the country and

showcase our sporting talent to the world, observed the Lt Governor.

sporting excellence, he added.

#### Cong to initiate dialogue at grassroots level in UP

Congress is all set to initiate a dialogue process at grassroot level in the main Hindi heartland weekend to get people's feedback to formulate a

In this regard the members of the manifesto committee for Uttar Pradesh polls met on prevailing charisma of Prime Minister Narendra

In the present UP assembly of 403 seats, BJP

According to the grand old party think thanks,

present in the meeting.

Ahead of the Assembly elections in the State mahapanchayats to connect with farmers protest-ing against the new farm laws for three months

She also went to Rampur to condole death of Varanasi on Saturday to attend Guru Ravidas Maharaj birth anniversary.

"She has been frequenting the State and is focusing only that State ever since she came into full active politics. People of the state, particularly the oppressed and downtrodden are looking

### Kerala: In a jolt for BJP, minority wing chief quits

ma for the Kerala BIP, one of the senior leaders of the party belonging to the Christian community resigned from all posts including the post of general secretary of the minority wing of the party on Friday.

Baby John, former RSP leader

who joined the BJP in 2011 and was elevated to the position of the minority wing general secretary told *The Pioneer* that his elevation in the party was because of his organisational and mobilising capabilities. "But of late I understood that the Kerala BJP is a divided house with so many groups and sub-groups. The minorities always are treated as second-class cit-

izens. Though the groups owing allegiance to K Surendran, union minster V Muraleedharan and former party chief Krishnadas do not see eve to eye on any issues, they are united against their hatred for Christians and Muslims. I am disappointed that I joined a party like this and devot-

ed my life for them," said Baby John. He said he is likely to cast his lot with the CPI(M) in coming days. "As a school student I was a member of the SFI, the student wing of the CPI(M) and hence there is nothing new in my regards for that party, said Baby John

But Prof Stanly Sebastain, an educationist-turned-entrepreneur,

who is known as a BJP fellow traveller said there was nothing shocking in Baby John's resignation.

"He belongs to the group of migratory birds who came to nestle in the BJP on the recommendation of a cartel led by bishops and arch bishops. The BJP leadership's failure to thoroughly scan the people who come in search of greener pastures is the root cause of this phenomenon. The BJP leaders in Kerala should work together and appoint only people with credentials to various wings of the party ," said Prof Sebastian who is one of the pioneers who alerted the Kerala Government about Love Jihad in the State. PNS

#### Illegal constructions can now be legalised by paying penalty

Ghaziabad: There is a relief news for the residents of the metropolis. The building owners who had constructed the buildings against the map can now legalize their illegal constructions by paying some penalty ie compounding fee. In this regard, the government has given approval to the Ghaziabad

Development Authority.
With this, more than 2000 illegal construction cases were pending before the GDA. Now the GDA has also got the right to legalize them. After the Compounding Scheme is implemented. Ghaziahad Development Authority has an additional income of more than 100 crores. Is estimated to be, GDA Vice President Krishna Karunesh told here today that the High Court had given a stay order regarding the Compounding Plan 2020, but at the government level it was decided to continue the Compounding Plan 2010 instead of the Mitigation Plan 2020.

#### Goa bans students from driving two-wheelers to school

Panaji: The Goa Education Department on Friday banned students from driving twowheelers to school.

According to an order issued by Director of Education Santosh Amonkar, the reason behind banning school students from driving on two-wheelers stems from complaints of reckless driving by students.

"It is informed that many

students are seen using two wheelers and riding in a reckless manner violating traffic rules," Amonkar said in his order

Amonkar has also urged heads of all educational institutions to address the issue of reckless driving by students with their respective Parents

According to an order issued by Director of **Education Santosh** Amonkar, the reason behind banning school students from driving on two-wheelers stems from complaints of reckless driving by students

Teachers Associations, while also urging them to ensure that no student should drive two wheelers to the school campus.
"It is once again enjoined

upon all heads of institutions to address this issue in PTA meeting and ensure that no students will drive two wheel-ers to the schools," the order

### Karnataka transporters' strike successful, vehicles stay away

**Bengaluru:** The day-long strike in support of the Bharat Bandh-call given by the CAIT on Friday in protest against the rising fuel prices among others, was largely successful as majority of trucks and goods-carry-ing vehicles did not ply on highways across the State.

The Karnataka State Lorry Owners and Agents
Association (KSLO&AA) came
out in full support of the Bharat
Bandh-call given by the
Confederation of All India Traders to protest against the rising fuel prices, Goods and Services Tax, E-Bill etc.

KSLO&AA President GR Shanmugappa said that around 75,000 trucks that operate in Bengaluru -- both up and down -- were off the roads. "We did not disturb supply of daily essential commodities like milk, medicine and fruits and vegetables, but our strike was largely successful," he said.

He also told reporters that

transporters across the country have been using the latest amendment in the GST laws, which has halved the validity of the E-way bill, a permit associated with the inter-state and intra-state movement of goods, from 100 km per day, to 200 km per day.
"Penalties for a truck car-

rying a consignment with an expired E-way bill, or with an erroneous E-way bill amount to

Govt colleges in

100 percent of the invoice value under Section 129 of CGST Act, 2017," he explained.

According to him, a lorry owner in the changed tax and fuel regime was forced to shell out around Rs 1,000 extra just to pass from Nelamnagala to Attibele, which is around 35

This is a classic case how cost has become unmanageable to transporters. Therefore, both union government and state governments need to be more sympathetic towards us and must agree to roll back their back breaking taxes, toll charges and fuel prices," he



Adityanath Government in Uttar Pradesh will launch a spe-

cial Covid-19 vaccination drive

for women above the age of 60

International Women's Day on March 8.

This was announced by additional chief secretary

(ACS) home, Avanish Kumar Awasthi on Friday during a high-level meeting with of UP Women's Commission chair-

The official, during the meeting with Women's Commission chairperson, dis-

cussed measures to provide a

safer environment to women, strengthening the peace, effec-

tively curbing crime and pro-

government-run schemes

under the state government's

Awasthi said, "As per direc-

tives from chief minister Yogi

Adityanath, effective action

Mission Shakti campaign.

person Vimala Batham.

years on the occasion of

Lucknow:

Special Covid vaccination

should be taken to make

women economically independent so that the benefits of

priority."He also directed the

officers to pay special attention

to the programmes run under

the Mission Shakti campaign.
ACS Home also
announced that the state government will facilitate women

entrepreneurs on March 10 in Lucknow.

oured, and the participants will be informed about the

efforts and success made by

women entrepreneurs. Efforts

will also be made to motivate women working in various

institutions of Lucknow district

chairperson Vimla Batham said

a work-plan would be pre-

pared by the commission for

the empowerment of women through Mission Shakti. IANS

UP Women's Commission

"The invitees will be hon-

overnment-run schemes can be made available to women on

drive for women in UP

The Yogi

#### Andhra registers 96 more Covid infections, tally rises to 8.89 lakh

With 71 more recoveries, total recoveries crossed 8.81 lakh in the southern state

Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh registered 96 new Covid cases on Friday, increasing the state's tally over 8.89 lakh, even as 71 more persons ecovered from the virus in the past 24 hours.

Chittoor district reported the highest number of cases at 22, followed by Nellore (9 each), East Godavari (7), Kadapa and Anantapur (6 each).

Among other places Visakhapatnam Srikakulam, Vizianagaram and West Godavari (4 each) and Kurnool (3).

However, no infection was recorded in Prakasam district in the past 24 hours while Chittoor has been logging the highest number of cases for some days already.

East Godavari's tally crossed 1.24 lakh, the highest among all Andhra dis-tricts, while the state's posi-tivity rate fell to 6.41 per cent, which is still higher than the national average of 5.15 per

Surprisingly, the state's active coronavirus cases climbed back over 600 to reach 635.

Meanwhile, one more fatality occurred due to the virus in the past 24 hours raising the total number of deaths to 7,169.

total recoveries crossed 8.81 lakh in the southern state.
With as many as 34,778

more tests, total Covid tests in Andhra Pradesh crossed 1.38 crore mark. IANS

#### Government on Friday signed an agreement with Cognizant Technology Solutions India Pvt Ltd and Rotary Club Whitefield to provide 12,500 de-bonded desktop computers to the first-grade government colleges in the state as part of

Deputy Chief Minister C.N. Ashwath Narayana said. This initiative is part of the Karnataka Management Management System (Karnataka LMS) based digital learning. The Karnataka LMS initiative is aimed at training around 24,000 teachers and 4.5 lakh students of 430 govern-

the 'Help Educate' initiative,

ment first grade colleges, 87 government polytechnics and 14 government engineering colleges. Addressing reporters after Cognizant Technology and

Rotary Club signed an agree-ment with the Department of Collegiate Education and Technical Education (DCTE) here, Narayana, who also holds the Higher Education portfo-lio, said, "The 'Help Educate' initiative is aimed at partnering with MNCs and philanthropists to educate and train students, train professors in modern methodology through faculty development programmes and digital teaching and also equip the government colleges with digital assets in order to adopt digital learning which is both a recent trend and also a necessity of times."

India will provide 12,500 debonded desktop computers, while the Rotary Club has come forward to instal Windows operating system and Office 365 besides taking digital divide.

K'taka to get 12,500 de-bonded desktops The Deputy CM explained that the initiative's prime objective is to facilitate

the government first

grade colleges with

computers and make a

difference in the learning of students, most of whom hail from a socio-economically marginalised background

care of transportation and installation of the desktops in

the respective colleges.
The Deputy CM explained that the initiative's prime objective is to facilitate the govern-ment first grade colleges with computers and make a difference in the learning of students, most of whom hail from a socio-economically margin-

alised background.

"These 12,500 desktop computers will be distributed among all the government first grade colleges to establish computer laboratories for the use of the students," he said.

Narayana said that the gov-ernment colleges need at least 30,000 computers, but under this initiative, 12,500 comput-

ers are being provided.
"This contribution is valued about Rs 50 crore and will help fill the digital divide of the students studying in government colleges," Narayana said, as he hoped that many more MNCs would come forward to

Launched in November last year, the Karnataka LMS is a comprehensive system which aims to empower teachers, enrich students and bridge the



Boats anchored at Mora Jetty Uran during fishermen's protest against the Central Government and JNPT in the midst of Arabian Sea by blocking its water channel way over rehabilitation of fishing community from nearby fishing area, in Navi Mumbai on Friday

www.dailypioneer.com

facebook.com/dailypioneer + @The Daily Pioneer + instagram.com/dailypioneer/

PAPER WITH PASSION

# **Censorship?**

The Government's guidelines regulating OTT platforms and social media raise a few questions

he first-phase lockdown of last year's pandemic outbreak spawned newfound attention and increased popularity for a number of web series as cinema halls had been ordered shut and people were forced to remain closeted inside their residences. Several big-budget and multi-starrer movies, which had been slated for theatrical release in the last week of March 2020 and beyond, fell to the Government's social distancing order and, to make up for the imminent financial losses in light of the prevailing uncertain conditions, chose the new fad of releasing the films online. As days gave way to weeks and months wore on, the average Indian family — already reeling under fear psychosis and bored to death by now — rediscovered the panacea of entertainment in various web



series streaming on Over-The-Top (OTT) platforms. So far, so good. Mirzapur aired, made a splash, but there was no hue and cry. Along came Saif Ali Khanstarrer Tandav, focusing on how politics affects collegial environment, and all hell broke loose. Everybody seems to have conveniently forgotten Haasil (released in 2003, starring Jimmy Sheirgill, Irrfan Khan and Ashutosh Rana, directed by Tigmanshu Dhulia) which was a gripping narrative based on the same subject. As avid watchers of the series among the OTT viewers point out, the ostensible objection — "hurting religious sentiments" by taking umbrage to the Shiva scene in the first episode — was just a ruse to express

anger against the way the controversial Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019, and the National Register of Citizens issues had been projected in the series.

The "religious sentiments" angle, coupled with allegations of the earlier series brimming with sexually explicit scenes and foul language, brought the spotlight back on Mirzapur, too, though there had been no protests during its run earlier. The tepid response of Twitter officials to the Centre's recent earnest entreaty to suspend the handles of certain "rumourmongering members" during the ongoing farmers' agitation, especially in the wake of the January 26 violence at Red Fort, seems to have added fuel to the authorities' displeasure and, therefore, today we find both the OTT platforms and social media facing a barrage of directives. The question now arises: Are the Government guidelines regulating the two media correct, or could it lead to pressure or censorship on them? Experts opine that the 29 pages of rules raise concerns over several factors, including the privacy of users and censorship of digital news media, which will ultimately affect citizens' rights. It seems the Government just does not like us to have fun and make personal choices. It had better heed common sense and allow its adult population, those who are eligible to vote and can take learned decisions in all other spheres of life, to decide for itself whether it wants to watch a particular show or series. Of course, cracking down on the creators and propagators of fake news is a different ball game altogether.



Sam Bennet celebrates after winning the sixth stage of the UAE tour cycling race in Dubai on Friday

## **Dark secrets**

Who is giving patronage to Mukhtar Ansari? Who is gunning for him, and why?

rguing in the Supreme Court, senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi termed him "a small fry". However, anyone who knows even a little about don-turned-politician Mukhtar Ansari and his deadly gang war in the badlands of Uttar Pradesh (UP), is aware that the name is enough to send a chill down the spine of many politicians, bureaucrats, police officers and, especially, businessmen. Ansari, an MLA from



LIP's Mau Sadar is currently lodged in the Bonar Jail of Punjab in connection with an extortion case. The Punjab and UP Governments are at loggerheads for his custody, with the former trying every trick up its sleeve to keep him from the UP Police's hands on health grounds. A natural question to ask would be as to what makes a dreaded criminal so important that UP's BJP-led Government and Puniab's Congress Government are fighting over his custody in the Supreme Court. Well, there is nothing new in Ansari's name being associated with heinous crimes like murder, extortion and kidnapping, but what actually has pitted him against the saffron party is the chilling murder of then BJP MLA Krishnanand

Rai in 2005, who and six associates were gunned down by assailants armed with AK-47 rifles. The murder was more than sensational as 400 rounds were fired. Ansari, the main accused, was acquitted by the CBI court in 2019.

Recently, the BJP's Mohammadabad MLA Alka Rai, the slain MLA's widow. wrote to Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra accusing the party Governments in Punjab and Rajasthan of shielding Ansari. However, the story is not as simple as it appears. The UP Police has of late become "trigger-happy" and several criminals have been gunned down in encounters that the Opposition terms "extra-judicial killings". Last year, wanted criminal Vikas Dubey was shot by the State police after the vehicle carrying him "overturned" on a highway and Dubey "tried to escape after snatching a gun" from a policeman. There is no denying that Ansari must be fearful of meeting the same fate if Punjab jail authorities hand him over to the UP Police. But there is another side to the story: The criminal-politician-bureaucrat-police nexus is nothing new and Ansari must have been part of many such connections at the interstate and intrastate level, and it is only in the interest of such corrupt elements to exterminate the voices that can reveal their dark secrets. Now, who is giving patronage to Ansari and who is out to get him, and why, is the moot question.

# A flight and travel after one year



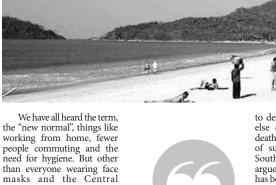
KUSHAN MITRA

As an air trip to Goa for an event after a year-long hiatus revealed, being constantly stressed about the virus is clearly not the way to be

t is not good form to write columns in the first person but since this column talks of a personal experience, I will be writing it as such. The experience in question was catching a flight for the first time in 350 days Part of my work involves evaluating and reviewing motor vehicles and that invariably involves a lot of travel, although the COVID-19 pandemic ensured that the few drives we did in 2020 all occurred in the Delhi-NCR and were fairly well-managed. Car companies don't do events in places like Goa because of the sun and sand or because folks like me enjoy flying, there are hundreds of decent hotel properties in Goa and the State is connected by flight to almost every major city in India. So, to do a media drive in Goa makes immense sense; in fact it is probably cheaper than organising individual drives in different cities and is definitely logistically easier.

I had promised myself that I would not fly in 2020, even after flights resumed and a few isolated automotive events took place. But as the new year rolled around and the first events began to be planned, one could not put off travel much longer. After all, working in a newspaper, I had been reading firsthand how the Government has more or less brought the pandemic in check. Of course, by the time I did eventually fly that had actually changed a bit with the new strain emerging in Maharashtra. However, my tickets were booked and I was taking a flight after 350 days. A drive that once seemed like

weekly commute to Terminal 3 from my house appeared strange, not least because this was my first time in a taxi after almost a year. Traffic to and from the airport seemed normal and the few iams were more to do with the construction of the new flyover taxiways. Since my flight was in the afternoon, there was less chaos at the drop-off area. Airlines are running at a restricted domestic schedule at about three-quarters capacity and with very few international flights, India's largest airport terminal did not feel crowded.



(CISF) staff wearing shields

and attaching a handle to their

from flying in 2019 and before. Though I did sanitise my

hands after going through security which I feel is the

biggest congregation point of

to claim that there was a lais-

sez faire attitude, vou really

would not have guessed that

explained by India's caseload,

award-winning medical writer

Siddhartha Mukherjee in *The* 

New Yorker recently. It elucidated on the concept that

because we live in India and

have been exposed to so many

pathogens before, maybe we

had been exposed to a "rela-

tive" of the COVID-19 virus

and that gave our bodies the B-cells and the T-cells needed

Industrial Security Force metal detector "wands", flying in 2021 was not very different THAT SAID, WE SHOULD STILL BE CAREFUL, **PARTICULARLY** the entire flying process, it felt the same as before. I must state, SINCE THERE IS IN at no point did I feel unsafe and ALL LIKELIHOOD A while I would not go as far as MORE VIRULENT STRAIN DOING THE ROUNDS. IT MAY there was a pandemic going on. Now part of this can be (OR MAY NOT) BE MÒRE DEADLY, BUT something that was well explained by oncologist and IT WOULD BE STUPID TO FIND

to deal with the virus. What else could explain the low death toll in India, many parts of sub-Saharan Africa and South-East Asia? One could argue that the "true" death toll has been suppressed but there is no way to hide hundreds of thousands of deaths; people would be talking about it, and that clearly isn't the case. That said, we should still be

careful, particularly since there is in all likelihood a more virulent strain doing the rounds It may (or may not) be more deadly, but it would be stupid to find that out the hard way. I was flying on Vistara and while mask compliance was followed, the flight was packed with families travelling to Goa to get away from the boredom, one presumes. Some passengers stuck in the middle seats were covered in their wovenfibre protective suits and most people kept their face-shields on during the flight.

But it was not so much the flying experience, but what I saw in Goa which was scary. My hosts had organised dinner at a popular nightspot and it was crowded. There were few precautions being taken and while the bouncers were taking temperatures using an infra-red scanner, it was quite evident that the public at large had travelled to the party State to leave Coronavirus worries behind. 'Thalassa' on Vagator beach was packed to the rafters and

nobody appeared to care. With the Goa airport seeing flights from every corner of the country even if some States ask for the returnees to be tested, the crowds at restaurants and bars were back to pre-COVID levels, just that they were almost completely Indian with very few foreigners. That said, there were some expats around; those who had business and diplomatic visas and they were praising the Government and Indians for taking such a "Zen" attitude to the pandemic.

It was really incredible Either people were not worried or they had reverted to their usual "dekha jayega" (we will see) attitude. Or maybe this was another example of Goan susegad", the chilled-out laidback attitude. I still don't know whether it is the attitude to adopt, but being constantly stressed about the virus is clearly not the way to be. But the "new normal" doesn't realseem very different from the "old normal"

(The author is Managing Editor, The Pioneer. The views expressed are personal.)

#### TERS TO THE EDITOR

#### **BJP SCARED OF RAHUL GANDHI**

Sir — This refers to the editorial 'Slip of the tongue?' (February 26). Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has yet again proved that he is suitable for politics and can make the BJP and its leaders uncomfortable. The BJP leaders, including the top brass, fear the popularity that Rahul enjoys among people and miss no oppor-tunity to project the Gandhi scion in bad light or poke fun at him.

They know that only he can change political equations and has the ability to lead the country. On the other hand, knowingly or otherwise, Rahul makes such statements or speeches which give good fodder to the BJP to keep attacking him, his family and also the Congress. Attacking Rahul gives the ruling party an opportunity to cover up its own failures. All the BIP leaders talk about 70 years of Congress rule alleging that the 'Grand Old Party' did nothing for the nation but rather looted it. However, they fail to count the achievements of the Congress against which the seven years of the BJP's rule stand nowhere.

Fuel prices are at an all-time high, the economy is at all-time low, unemployment rates are high and there are no jobs in the Government sector. The Modi Government is doing rampant privatisation to benefit its corporate friends and is least concerned about the plight of the poor and the have-nots. Only a Government under Rahul's leadership can save the nation and put the economy back on tracks.

N Nagarajan | Secunderabad

#### **EXTRADITE ALL FUGITIVE INDIANS**

Sir - There is finally the good news that fugitive diamond merchant Nirav Modi, wanted in India on charges of fraud and money laundering in Punjab National Bank (PNB) scam case, will be extradited from the UK. Mumbai's Arthur Road jail has kept a special cell ready to lodge him. It is like a win-win situation for the Indian Government and authorities. Further, the UK judge ruled that there is no evidence to suggest that Nirav would

### **Nothing wrong with renaming stadium**

THAT OUT THE

HARD WAY



Aed for having the Motera stadium named after Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Those making the hue and cry must understand that Modi isn't the first living person to have a stadium named after him. Many stadiums in India have been named after leaders like Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi and so on, Even airports and railway stations have been named after great leaders and personalities. Narendra Modi,

during his tenure as the Chief Minister of Gujarat, had developed the State quite a lot. After all, if was Modi's dream to create a stadium meeting the global standards with state-of-the-art facilities and he played an instrumental role in the redevelopment of the sports facility.

We must understand that renaming the stadium after Modi in no way belittles or insults other leaders. In the past, Mumbai's Brabourne and Wankhede stadiums were named after individuals who were then alive. Similar is the case with Navi Mumbai's DY Patil Stadium, Bengaluru's M Chidambaram Stadium. Mohali's PCA Stadium was renamed after former BCCI and Puniab Cricket Association president IS Bindra. However, this outcry reeks of dirty politics and a section of people who have developed a sort of phobia against the name of the Prime Minister. However, we should not lend our ears to such people who criticise him for the sake of criticism only

M Pradvu | Kannur

not receive a fair trial in India. With this, Nirav lost his nearly two-year-long legal battle against extradition on all grounds.

The 49-year-old fugitive businessman has been repeatedly denied bail due to the seriousness of the allegations against him and remains behind bars in a London prison since his arrest in March 2019. It will also set an example for other criminals who flee the country after committing financial and other crimes and think they can get away with it. Such criminals and fugitives can afford big lawyers, but they must remember that law is above all and it's not easy to hide or escape its long hands. All fugitives should be extradited and punished as per the law of India.

### CK Ramani | Chennai

**SHAMEFUL ACT BY POLICE OFFICER** Sir — It is really shocking that Rajesh Das, the Special Director General of Police, Tamil Nadu, has turned out to be a black sheep as he is accused of misbehaving with a female IPS officer on duty and sexually harassing her. This is what happens when officers are promoted to senior positions, particularly in the police department, without taking into account their past records but rather on various other considerations. It is also unwarranted that posts such as Special DGP are created with the intention of accommodating blue-eyed officers.

Suspension would not be sufficient in his case and he should be summarily dismissed from service as the female IPS officer has come forward to lodge a complaint against him.

It is expected that the panel to probe the harassment charge would do a fair job and submit its final report in record time. If women police officers are not safe and are vulnerable to such crimes at the hands of their own colleagues, the plight of common women is not hard to understand.

> Tharcius S Fernando | Chennai Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

#### **SOUNT**

One after the other steps have been country out of the non-transparent credit culture. Now

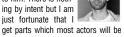


NPAs cannot be swept under the to be reported.



Russia is confronted with a highly aggressive policy its development and creating problems along our perimeter. Russian President

An actor can only choose what is offered to him. There is nothing by intent hut I am just fortunate that



envious of.





retirement from all forms of the game. I friends, fans, teams, coaches and the whole

country wholeheartedly for all the support and love.

Indian Air Force (IAF) had responded to the Pulwama terror attack and reiterated the country's policy against terrorism in "New India"

Today in 2019, the



**Union Home Minister** -Amit Shah

facebook.com/dailypioneer | @TheDailyPioneer | instagram.com/dailypioneer/

# **FIRST COLUMN**

www.dailypioneer.com

### **ADULT EDUCATION SET TO TURN A PAGE**

Free access to adult learning through online mode backed by extensive usage of ICT has been emphasised



VIPIN KUMAR

merican industrialist Henry Ford famously said: "Anyone who stops learning is old - whether this happens at 20 or at 80. Anyone who keeps on learning not only remains young but becomes constantly more valuable - regardless of physical capacity." This is true even today, particularly for illiterate adults. Adult Education (AE) extends schooling options to those who are 15 years of age or above and have missed the opportunity of formal tutoring earlier but now want to pursue education. Though the literacy rate in India has increased from 12 per cent in 1947 to 73 per cent in 2011, however, adult illiteracy is still a challenge for the Government because the absolute number of illiterates in India was 25.76 crore, the largest in the world, as per the 2011 census. Successive Central governments took major initiatives to improve the adult literacy rate in the country. For instance, under the National Education Policy (NEP), 1986, the National Literacy Mission Authority (NLMA) was founded to impart functional literacy to non-literates in the age group of 15-35 years in a time-bound manner. Subsequently, the Saakshar Bharat Programme continued till March 2018.



A major paradigm shift in the programme could help in imparting functional literacy to 7.63 crore non-literates, including 5.38 crore women with four broader objectives namely: Basic literacy and numeracy, basic education, vocational education and continuing education. In this programme, the Government introduced new components of literacy and under the financial literacy component, one crore bank accounts of adult illiterates or neo-literates were opened under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana. With regard to legal literacy, a new curriculum was designed and developed for neo-literates to create awareness of their rights and duties. These components have been included in the critical life section of AE and the lifelong learning chapter of the NEP, 2020. The new curriculum will be developed by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and includes five components: Foundational literacy and numeracy; critical life skills (including financial literacy, digital literacy, commercial skills, healthcare and awareness, child care and education, and family welfare); vocational skills development; basic education and continuing education (including holistic adult education courses in arts, science, technology, culture, sports, recreation and more advanced material on critical life skills).

The NEP-2020 recommends a strong and innovative Government initiative for AE to facilitate community involvement and the smooth and beneficial integration of technology to expedite the aim of achieving  $100\,$ per cent literacy. These resources are a must to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4.6 of the United Nations. Giving impetus to adult literacy, the Union Budget 2021-22, states that "to enable increased access of resources, online modules covering the entire gamut of adult education will be introduced." Hence, for the improvement of the AE programme, free access to adult learning in States and Union Territories (UTs) through online mode backed by extensive usage of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) has been emphasised. An online teaching and learning system will be developed in which a learner may register with essential information like name, date of birth, gender, Aadhaar number (not mandatory), mobile number and so on and attend the class through online mode by using a mobile or any Common Service Centre (CSC) or digital booth or cybercafé. At the national level the NCERT, NIOS, National Informatics Centre and the DAE will facilitate ICT support in designing and developing central modules, portal, apps, while States and UTs may explore partnerships with stakeholders for a vibrant adult education programme. As Mahatma Gandhi once said, "Mass illiteracy is India's sin and shame and must be liquidated."

(The writer is Joint Secretary, Ministry of Education. The views expressed are personal.)

# Time for an eco-friendly development model



The people living in hilly regions and the country at large demand that the Govt adopt a pro-people and pro-nature development model instead of a pro-corporate one

he recent havoc in the Chamoli district of Uttarakhand — where a large part of the Nanda Devi glacier fell into the Alaknanda stream near Joshimath and caused severe flooding that resulted in the hydropower projects of Rishi Ganga and NTPC Tapovan Vishnugad plus many buildings being destroyed and scores of people being killed — has raised the pertinent question: Is this development or the destruction of the environment and people? The Chamoli incident has brought back the traumatic memories of the June 2013 tragedy when the Mandakini river was suddenly flooded after a cloudburst and the flow of water killed more than 5,000 people and left millions stranded in floodwater for days. The fact remains that though Uttarakhand is blessed with natural beauty and invaluable resources such as dense forests, rivers and mountains, it has a very fragile ecosystem. Hence, the State is prone to natural disasters. An earthquake of the magnitude 6.8 on the Richter scale hit the district of Uttarkashi in 1991, killing hundreds of people and destroying thousands of houses. Another earthquake in 1999 in Chamoli killed hundreds, too. The entire Malpa village of Pithoragarh was devastated by a massive landslide in 1999 and 250 people lost their

Though earthquakes, cloudbursts, landslides, massive avalanches and other natural disasters have been a part of natural processes in Uttarakhand for centuries, the increase in their frequency and depth of intensity is due to human activities. The natives of Uttarakhand are acutely aware and have widespread knowledge about the fragility and ecosensitivity of their environment. For centuries they have lived in harmony with the environment, but now, this stability is being threatened by indiscriminate development and flagrant violation of environmental rules. They have been trying to save their State for a long time.

As early as June 1950, Mira Behn, an environmental activist of Garhwal, published an article titled 'Something is wrong in the Himalayas' documenting that the flash floods in Uttarakhand are bound to wreak havoc as the sensitivity of the environment is being overlooked during the economic development process. Later, she also wrote to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on the issue. It is pertinent to note that the site of the recent mishap is the cradle of the Chipko Movement that was initiated to save trees from commercial lumber firms. The first protest occurred near the village of Mandal in the upper Alaknanda valley in April 1973. Alas, governments past and present have neither listened to the cries of locals and environmental activists nor learnt any lessons from the tragedy of 2013. Still, more than 50 hydroelectric projects are underway on the Alaknanda and Bhagirathi rivers, even though a committee of experts warned that such projects were a threat to the State and its frail ecol-

In fact, Uma Bharti, a senior BJP leader and former Water Resources Minister, in her time had requested the Centre not to build power projects on the Ganga river and its major tributaries since the Himalayas are a fragile area. Following the recent catastrophe in Uttarakhand, the Government needs to seriously reconsider its stance on building hydroelectric dams in the region. It should no longer ignore the advice and warnings



EVEN IF THE GOVERNMENT CUTS GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PARIS CLIMATE
AGREEMENT,
ONE-THIRD OF THE
GLACIERS OF THE
HIMALAYAN AND
HINDU KUSH MOUNTAIN RANGES
WILL MELT BY THE
END OF THE
21ST CENTURY.
HENCE, URGENT
ACTION NEEDS TO BE TAKEN SOONER AS NATURAL DISASTERS ARE LIKELY TO INCREASE WITH TEMPERATURE

Even if the Government cuts green-house gas (GHG) emissions in accordance with the Paris Climate Agreement, one-third of the glaciers of the Himalayan and Hindu Kush mountain ranges will melt by the end of the 21st century. Hence, urgent action needs to be taken sooner as natural disasters are likely to increase with temperature

An increase in natural disasters in India is a result of climate change, but an increase in their impact is due to overexploitation of natural resources. The Centre and State Governments have been pursuing pro-corporate development by ignoring environmental norms.

Uttarakhand is inviting climatic tragedies and destroying its beauty by regularly flouting the Environmental Impact Assessment Laws to build a 900-km-long stretch of the Char Dham route, Shockingly,

these roads pass through an environmentally-sensitive zone. The construction of this 900 km stretch was done by dividing it into 53 small sec-

The Environmental Impact Assessment Department's permission has to be sought to construct more than 100 km of a road that is passing through environmentally sensitive areas. This road's width is being kept at 12 metres, for which land with a width of 24 metres would be required. Significantly, most European countries have kept the width of their roads in the mountains to eight metres.

In the aftermath of the February

7 catastrophe, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said that the country stands by Uttarakhand. He also announced financial assistance to the families of the victims. But such promises and financial aid are of no use for Uttarakhandis as continuous negligence of environmental regulations by successive govern-ments has led to repeated natural disasters. A few lakhs in assistance from the Centre and State won't help people rebuild their houses or bring back their loved ones. To prevent such emotional and financial losses to the people, the Government should mend its pro-corporate economic development methods.

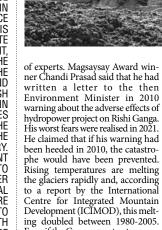
The massive loss of life and property resulting from natural disasters should serve as a warning sig-nal to the Central Government and make it realise that it must strictly

**RORY BURNS** 

abide by environmental norms. However, the Government seems to be in no mood to hear the alarm bells as the Central Government is planning to relax environmental standards for Mopa Airport in Goa, sand mining in Uttar Pradesh, Sterlite Copper in Tamil Nadu and construction activities in and around Delhi, which have been blocked by the Supreme Court and the National Green Tribunal. Meanwhile, the NITI Aayog — the Government's apex think tank — has commissioned a study that seeks to examine the "unintended economic consequences" of judicial decisions that have hindered and stalled big proects on environmental pretexts.

If mountainous areas of the country, including Uttarakhand and their people, are to be saved, then it is incumbent upon the Central Government not to carry out development work in these areas without seeking the opinions of geologists and the locals. The Government should imme-

diately ban unsustainable develop-ment projects in the hilly regions, be it the Char Dham route or hydropower projects. If this does not happen, the people of these areas will be forced to endure frequent natural disasters in the future. The people living in the hilly regions and the country at large demand that the Central Government adopt a propeople and pro-nature develop-ment model instead of a pro-corporate economic development one.



Kaur is professor, Department of Geography, Punjabi University, Patiala, and Visiting Professor, IMPRI, while Kumar is Director, IMPRI

NICE OF THE ENGLAND BOYS TO GET THIS TEST MATCH FINISHED JUST BEFORE ENGLAND **WOMEN PLAY TONIGHT.** -ENGLAND CRICKETER **ALEX HARTLEY** 





VERY DISAPPOINTING ATTITUDE CONSIDERING **ALL THE BOYS DO TO SUPPORT** THE WOMEN'S GAME. -ENGLAND CRICKETER

# A bleak future without sustainable water resources

India has an extremely low rainwater harvesting percentage, varying from three-six per cent of the annual rainfall. Hence, watershed management is imperative

≺he farmers' protest reflects their approach towards securing their future, and soon there would be a solution to that. But there still looms a larger crisis for India and its people, including the tile lands on Earth today stands as the most water challenged nations in the world. India has the highest number of people in the world without access to safe water Over 80 million peo- a majority from impoverished communities — living on less than \$4 a day, are forced to collect dirty water from open ponds and rivers or spend most of what they earn

buying water from tankers. A report by the NITI Aayog in 2018 revealed that 75 per cent of households do not have drinking water on the premises; 84 per cent of rural households do not have piped water access; 70 per cent of the



SASHIDHAR VEMPALA

The writer is a

over 33 per cent, leading to the high burden of waterborne More than 600 million

people in India face high to extreme water stress and 21 cities, including New Delhi, Bengaluru and Chennai, will run out of groundwater soon, affecting 100 million people. Critical groundwater resources. which account for 40 per cent of our water supply, are being exploited at unsustainable rates. India is already plagued with groundwater contaminated with iron, nitrate, chlorine, along with the predominant arsenic and fluoride, both posing human health risks. A study published by Duke

conservationist, wildlife photographer, documentary film-maker and sustainability University in 2018 found uraprofessional. The views expressed are personal. nium contamination in aquiferdrawn groundwater in 16 Indian States.Water Index

water is contaminated and scores vary widely, but most wastewater treatment remains States have achieved a score stuck at the national average of below 50 per cent and could significantly improve their water resource management practices. Because of this, food secu-

rity is at a risk as the low performers on the Water Index are home to over 50 per cent of the country's population and its agricultural baskets. The low performers, worryingly, comprise the populous northern States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Harvana and others and are home to over 600 million people. Given the combination of rapidly declining groundwater levels and limited policy action this is also likely to be a significant food security risk for the country going forward.

Čritical groundwater resources, which account for 40 per cent of our water supply, are being depleted at unsustainable



rates. Droughts are becoming more frequent, creating severe problems for India's raindependent farmers (over 53 per cent of agriculture is rainfed). When water is available, it is likely to be contaminated, resulting in nearly 2,00,000 deaths each year. Interstate disagreements are on the rise, with seven major disputes currently raging, pointing to the fact that limited frameworks and institutions are in place for

national water governance. By 2030, the country's water demand is projected to be twice than the available supply, implying severe water scarcity for hundreds of millions of people and an eventual over six per cent loss in the country's GDP. As per the report of the National Commission for Integrated Water Resource Development of MoWR, water requirement by 2050 in a high use scenario is likely to be a milder 1,180 BCM, whereas the present-day availability is 695 BCM

The total availability of ater possible in country is still lower than this projected demand, at 1,137 BCM. Thus, there is an imminent need to deepen our understanding of water resources and usage and put in place interventions that make water use efficient and sustainable. Israel is the world

leader in water governance. And India has partnered with them to share methods and technology. There is a need for more such partnerships, knowledge transfer but more than that, it is awareness that is needed by common users about the impending water crisis.

With nearly 70 per cent of the water being contaminated, India ranks 120 out of 122 countries on the water quality index. Policymakers face a difficult situation because there is not enough data available on how households and industries use and manage water.

There is an urgent need to deepen understanding of our water resources and usage and put in place interventions that make water use efficient and sustainable. Consumers and industries need to look at the 4Rs with renewed rigour. "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle,

Recharge." India has an extremely low rainwater harvesting percentage, varying from three-six per cent of annual rainfall. Large-scale watershed management is imperative for holistic management of ecosystems. Coupled with stronger implementation policies and regulations, an ecosystem management approach will bring in adoption newer conservation technologies

The agriculture sector will evolve further to improve irrigation and water use efficiency. All this is not possible without investment in education and awareness. Community governance and partnerships. water pricing a strong wastewater recycling ecosystem and increasing rainwater, stormwater harvesting will make people realise the importance of every drop of water and promote sustainable use.



# **Nations should follow India's Covid example: WHO** chief lauds Govt

Narendra Modi's commitment for supporting vaccine equity and sharing Covid-19 vaccines with over 60 countries across the world, hop-

ing that other nations will follow his example. In a tweet, Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organisation, said that India's support in supplying its vaccines is helping over 60 countries to begin the vaccination

"Thanks India & Prime Minister @narendramodi for supporting #VaccinEquity. Your commitment to #COVAX and sharing #COVID19 vaccine doses is helping 60+ coun tries start vaccinating their #healthworkers and other priority groups. I hope other countries will follow your example," he said in the tweet

on Thursday.
India on Wednesday dispatched the first batch of six lakh Covid-19 vaccine doses to the African country of Ghana under the COVAX facility in collaboration with UNICEF, which aims to cover 92 countries under the ini-

The doses are a part of the first batch of Covid-19 vaccine the country is acquiring

ly 92 countries have signed into.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on February 12 said that India has provided over 229 lakh doses of coronavirus vaccines to various countries out of which 64 lakh doses have been supplied as grant assistance and 165 lakh on commercial basis.

MEA Spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said India will continue to take forward the global vaccine supply initiative and cover more countries in a phased manner.

Consignments of coronavirus vaccine doses were supplied as gifts to Bangladesh (20 lakh), Myanmar (17 lakh), Nepal (10 lakh), Bhutan (1.5 lakh), the Maldives (1 lakh), Mauritius (1 lakh), Seychelles (50,000), Sri Lanka (5 lakh), Bahrain (1 lakh), Oman (1 lakh), Afghanistan (5 Lakhs), Barbados (1 Lakh) and Dominica (70,000), he said.

Srivastava said countries which received vaccines on commercial basis are Brazil (20 lakh), Morocco (60 lakh), Bangladesh (50 lakh), Myanmar (20 lakh), Egypt (50,000), Algeria (50,000), South Africa (10 lakh), Kuwait (2 lakh) and UAE (2 lakh).

#### China plays down reports of India beating it in vaccine diplomacy

Beijing: China on Friday welcomed India supplying more Covid-19 vaccines to a number of countries, playing down reports that New Delhi has beaten Beijing in its vaccine diplomacy around the world.

Responding to a question on a report that India has beaten China in its own game of vac-cine diplomacy, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin during a media briefing said, "We welcome that and hope to see more countries taking actions to provide vaccines to the world, especially developing countries, to help with the global response."

"China has been overcoming domestic dif-ficulties to provide vaccines to other countries in concrete measure," he said, flagging China's own vaccine requirement to inoculate its 1.4 billion population. He reiterated that China has providing vaccines to 53 countries and exporting vaccines to 27 countries, amid reports that many of those countries are yet to receive Chinese vaccines or the promised quantities.

For its part, China has promised 10 million vaccines to the United Nations-backed COVAX initiative COVAX, but the first supplies of COVAX vaccines went from the Serum Institute of India to Ghana.

India on Wednesday dispatched the first batch of six lakh COVID-19 vaccine doses to Ghana under the COVAX facility, an interna-tional cooperative programme formed to make sure low- and middle-income countries have fair access to COVID-19 vaccines.

#### ISIS bride not allowed to return to UK to fight for citizenship, SC rules

London: The UK Government on Friday won a major legal battle as the Supreme Court ruled against allowing a London-born 21-year-old woman of Bangladeshi descent, who ran away to Syria as a teenager to join the Islamic State (ISIS) terror group, to return and fight her citizenship case.

The unanimous decision – with all five top court

justices in agreement – comes six years after the then 15-year-old schoolgirl, Shamima Begum, ran away with two other friends to join the Islamic State (ISIS) group in February 2015.

Begum had her British citizenship revoked on national security grounds shortly after she was found

in a Syrian refugee camp in February 2019. "The Supreme Court unanimously allows all of the Home Secretary's appeals and dismisses Ms Begum's cross-appeal," said Lord Robert Reed, the President of

the Supreme Court.

"The right to a fair hearing does not trump all other considerations, such as the safety of the public," he said. Begum was born in the UK to parents of Bangladeshi heritage.

Begum, dubbed an ISIS bride in reference to her marriage to Dutch ISIS fighter Yago Riedijk, was one of three schoolgirls from Bethnal Green in east London who travelled via Turkey to ISIS headquarters in Raqqa. When discovered in a refugee camp two years ago, she had already lost two children and was heavily preg-

nant with her third who died shortly after being born. Begum had challenged the UK Home Office's decision to remove her British citizenship and wanted to be allowed to return to the UK to pursue that

#### Hundreds of Nigerian schoolgirls taken in mass abduction

Lagos: Hundreds of girls are missing after a large group of gunmen raided a school in northern Nigeria early Friday morning, residents say.

Government Secondary Jangebe School in Zamfara state was the scene of the latest mass abduction of school children in northern Nigeria.

Nasiru Abdullahi told The Associated Press that school records show 300 girls are missing. His daughters, aged 10 and

13, are among them. Resident Musa Mustapha said the gunmen also attacked a nearby military camp and checkpoint, preventing soldiers from interfering while the gunmen spent several hours at the school. It was not immediately clear if there were any casualties.

Several large groups of armed men operate in Zamfara state, described by the government as bandits, and are known to kidnap for money and for the release of their members from

jail.
"We are angered and saddened by yet another brutal attack on schoolchildren in Nigeria," said Peter Hawkins,

UNICEF representative in the country. "This is a gross viola-tion of children's rights and a horrific experience for children to go through." He called for their immediate release.

The West African nation has en several such attacks and kidnappings over the years, notably the mass abduction in April 2014 by jihadist group Boko Haram of 276 girls from the secondary school in Chibok in Borno state. More than a hundred of the girls are still missing.

Friday's attack came less than two weeks after gunmen abducted 42 people, including 27 students, from the Government Science College Kagara in Niger State. The students, teachers and family mem-

bers are still being held.

In December, 344 students were abducted from the Government Science Secondary School Kankara in Katsina State. They were eventually released.

Anietie Ewang, Nigeria researcher at Human Rights Watch, noted the recent abductions and tweeted that "Strong action is required from the authorities to turn the tide & Samp; keep schools safe." AP

#### Militia official: US strike in Syria kills 1, wounds several

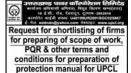
Baghdad: A US airstrike in Syria targeted facilities belong-ing to a powerful Iranian-backed Iraqi armed group, killing one of their militiamen and wounding a number of others, an Iraqi militia official said on Friday.

The Pentagon said the strikes were retaliation for a rocket attack in Iraq earlier this month that killed one civilian contractor and wounded a US service member and other coali-

tion troops.

The Iraqi militia official told The Associated Press that the strikes against the Kataeb Hezbollah, or Hezbollah Brigades, hit an area along the border between the Syrian site of Boukamal facing Qaim on the

Notice is hereby given to the General publi that Mrs. Maya Devi is absolute owner of Two shops area measuring 21.25 sq., Yds., "said shops" part of Property bearing No. 378/379 Old, and New No. 654, area measuring 300 sq., Yds., Situated in the residential colony Noor Nagar, Pargana Jalalabad, Tehsil & District Ghaziabad. by virtue of registered Sale deed date 12:08:2010 Doc No. 4214. (SR- I Ghaziabad), Now, Mrs. Maya Devi is takin loan from Fullerton India Credit Compan loan from Fullerton India Credit Compan, Limited, by Mortgaging the above said property & in case anyone has any objection, the same may be raised within in days of this publication to Mr. Muneest Dhawan' Mr. Sudhir Jain (Advocates), Lav Veritas, Unit no 405, 4th Floor, GD-ITI Northex Tower, (A-09), Netaji Subhast Place, Delhi-110034 or contact a 9066707172/9818228636 (M).



UPCL is in the process of preparing a protection manual taking into consideration the UERC (Distribution Code) Regulation, 2018 and UERC (State Grid Code) Regulation 2016. Proposals are invited from reputed firms/consultants vith adequate experience in the area, for preparing the detailed scope of work, the qualifying requirements, the expected completion time incial implications involved and terms & conditions required for preparing protection manual of UPCL. Proposal on the above lines may please be submitted by the interested parties, in sealed envelopes, to the office of Superintending Engineer, Electricity Distribution Circle (Rural), 18 EC Road, Dehradun on or before 15th March, 2021 11:00 am. The proposals shall he opened on the same date parties shall be shortlisted pased on their proposals.

अधिशासी अभियन्ता No.3231/EDD(N)/DDN/ विद्युत वितरण खण्ड Date: 25.02.2021 (उत्तर)

### Myanmar protesters injured as police escalate use of force

Yangon: Myanmar security forces cracked down on anti-coup protesters in the country's second-largest city on Friday, injuring at least three people, two of whom were shot in the chest by rubber bullets and another who suffered a wound on his leg.

Protesters had gathered on a wide road outside a park in Mandalay in the early afternoon when security forces arrived and began firing what sounded like gunshots and using flash bang grenades to disperse

Bullets, shell casings, and other projectiles were later found by local residents on one of the main streets and shown to journalists

The victims were all taken to a private clinic for treatment. One of the men who was shot in the chest with a rubber bullet also had a white bandage wrapped around his head. The man with an injured leg wa later photographed in a cast that stretched from his foot to his knee.

The confrontations underscore the rising tensions between a growing popular revolt and the generals who toppled the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi in a February 1 takeover that shocked the inter national community and reversed years of slow progress toward democracy.

Also Friday, a Japanese journalist covering a separate protest in Yangon, the country's largest city, was detained by police and



news agency. Yuki Kitazumi could be seen in a video circulating among media as police seized him, with one of the officers briefly putting a truncheon around the journalist's

Earlier in the day, security forces in Yangon fired warning shots and beat trun-cheons against their shields while moving to disperse more than 1,000 anti-coup pro-The demonstrators had gathered in

front of a popular shopping mall, holding placards and chanting slogans denouncing the Feb. 1 coup even as the security presence increased and a water-cannon truck

# later released, according to Japan's Kyodo

was brought to the area. When around 50 riot police moved

gainst the protesters, warning shots could be heard, and at least one demonstrator was held by officers. Security forces chased the protesters off the main road and continued to pursue them in the nearby lanes, as some ducked into houses to hide.

AP

7.20 UCS

21.03.2021 1.20 LACS

### of Pakistan being blacklisted by FATF Islamabad: There was no possibility of

Pakistan being blacklisted by the FATF as it has made "significant progress", a senior minister claimed on Friday, a day after the global anti-money laundering watchdog retained the country on its "Grey List", citing "serious deficiencies" on its part in checking terror-financing. Addressing the media after the

Min: No possibility

Financial Action Task Force, the Parisbased global body against money-laun dering and terror-financing, announced to keep Pakistan on its Grey List until June, Minister for Industries Hammad Azhar said that Islamabad achieved the targets despite the challenging timeline given to it.

"There was no possibility of Pakistan being blacklisted by the FATF," Azhar, who led Pakistani delegation at the plenary as the chairman of the FATF Coordination Committee, said. PTI

#### Officials: Heavy fighting kills 27 people in central Yemen

Sanaa (Yemen): Heavy fighting between rebels and Government forces in Yemen's oil-rich Marih has killed at least 27 people. tribal leaders and security officials said Firday, amid a resurgence of violence in the

month renewed their attack on Marib, a stronghold for Yemeni forces allied with the internationally recognized government. The rebel offensive has faced stiff resistance and made little progress so far. The officials, speaking on the condition of

The Iranian-backed Houthi rebels earlier this

anonymity as they were not authorized to talk to the media, said the uptick in violence came over the past twenty-four hours adding that most of the dead were rebel

#### Covid vaccine didn't hurt at all and helps others, says Britain's Queen

London: Britain's Queen Elizabeth II has said that receiving her vaccine to protect against Covid-19 "didn't hurt at all" and encouraged those hesitant about getting jabbed to think about how it would help oth-

ers in preventing the spread of the deadly virus.

In a rare reference to private health matters, the 94-year-old monarch backed the National Health Service (NHS) led vaccination programme in the UK during a video call earlier this week with health officials coordinating the rollout across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

She and husband, 99-year-old Prince Philip, received their first of two doses last month.

"Once you've had the vaccine you have a feeling of, you know, you're protected, which is I think very important," said the Queen, in reference to her jab.
"As far as I could make out it was quite harmless. It was very quick, and I've had lots of letters from people who have been very surprised by how easy it was to get the vaccine. And the jab – it didn't hurt at all," she said. Addressing some concerns about the uptake of vaccines and reluctance among certain groups, the monarch added: "I think the other thing is, that it is obviously difficult for people if they've never had a vaccine... But they ought to think about

other people rather than themselves." The video interaction, posted on the Royal Family's social media pages, came as UK Vaccine Deployment Minister Nadhim Zahawi said figures suggest 11-15 per cent of people were vaccine-hesitant, with some ethnic minority communities among

#### Sri Lanka ends forced cremations of Covid victims

Colombo: Amidst mounting international criticism. Sri Lanka has revised a controversial mandatory order to cremate the bodies of Covid-19 victims, which denied minority communities, including Muslims, their religious rights.

The government on Thursday revised a gazette notification issued in April last year. The new notification has allowed both burials and cremations.

For 10 months, Muslim and Christian minorities in the country and international rights groups have been lobbying the government to end the policy of forced cremations.

The government was resisting calls to allow burials citing health concerns. It cited the opinion of some experts who claimed that the burial of COVID-19 victims would contaminate the water table thereby spreading the pandemic further.

The country had earlier come under

intense criticism from rights groups, including the UNHRC, over the cremation order.

They said it failed to respect the religious feelings of the victims and their family members, especially of the Muslims, Catholics and some Buddhists.

The cremation of bodies is forbidden in

The decision to end forced cremations followed the visit of Pakistan Prime Minister

#### UN rights chief cites 'need' to assess rights in Xinjiang

Geneva: The United Nations' human rights chief on Friday cited the need for an "independent and comprehensive assessment" of the rights situation in China's Xinjiang region, while emphasising that activists, lawyers and rights defenders face unfair

charges, detention and trials in China.

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet said her office is working to find "mutually agreeable parameters" for her to visit China, including Xinjiang. Efforts to arrange such a visit for the human rights commissioner date to

before she took office in September 2018.

Bachelet discussed China while giving the U.N.'s Human Rights Council her regular update on the rights situation world-wide, this time involving some 50 countries.

Bachelet credited China's progress in curbing COVID-19 but said "fundamental rights and civic freedoms continue to be curtailed in the name of national security and the COVID-19 response." She said over 600 people are being investigated for participating in protests in Hong Kong.

Concerns about detention centers -- which China calls training centers -- for Muslim Uyghurs and others in Xinjiang have provoked human rights concerns for many months, and Bachelet's office and Chinese authorities have so far failed to arrange a visit for her to the region. AP

# PUBLIC NOTICE

MY clients Laxman Prasad Sharma S/o Sh. Chaturbhuj Sharma and Krishna Devi W/o Sh. Laxman Prasad Sharma R/o H.No. 304, Sh. Laxman Prasad Sharma R/o H.No. 304, Pkt B-9 Sec-5, Rohini, Dolhi-85 have debarred, discwned their son Ashish Kumar and his wife Sulochana (Pooja), Brijesh Kumar and his wife Prena Sharma from all their movable and immovable properties. If anybody deals with them in any manner they do so at their own risk. My clients shall no be responsible for the same in any manner

ny manner Ratan Lai Gupta (Advocate) J-125, Adhyapak Nagar Nangloi Delhi-110041

#### LOST & FOUND

I, DN Sood son of Late M.R. Sood Karta of DN Sood HUF. Resident of 49, Residency farms, Asola. New Delhi 110030 have lost the original Form D of property No. F-33/7, Okhla Industrial Area Phase II, New Delhi-110020 in the name of M/s Indian Industrial Corporation. If any body found i please contact at 09810184289.

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to bring to the notice of the General public that one ID card of Mr. Sharad Kumar Thwarl issued by ICICI Bank Ltd. Having ID card no. 12643 has been found missing and/or lost on 31-12-2020. Anyone, who finds the said ID card, is requested to return the said ID card to The Manager Debt Services & Management Group, ICICI Bank Limited, Delhi.

Therefore, all the customers of ICICI

Limited, Delhi.
Therefore, all the customers of ICICI
Bank Limited are hereby notified not to make any payment to any unauthorized person holding the said ID card no. 12643.

2045. Please take further notice tha

For ICICI Bank Limited
Date: 25.02.2021 ----Sd---

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to bring to the notice of the General public that one ID card of Mr. Ram Lakhan issued by ICICI Bank Ltd. Having ID card no. 06274 has been found missing and/or lost on 31-12-2020. Anyone, who finds the said ID card, is requested to return the said ID card to The Manager Debt Services & Management Group, ICICI Bank Limited, Delhi.

Therefore all the customers of ICICI Therefore all the customers of ICICI Bank

Please take further notice that anybody

making payment to any person h the said ID card shall do so at his/h costs, risk and peril and ICICI Ban

#### SEARCH FOR MISSING

DEPLOYMENT OF OUTSOURCE AGENCY FOR PROVIDING DRUG DISTRIBUTION SERVICES FOR ONE YEAR ONE YEAR WHICH IS EXTENDABLE ON QUARTERLY BASIS

SUPPLY OF PRONTED 06 LAKHS ANSWER SHEETS PER ANNUM FOR A PERIOD OF THREE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in



SAKSHI

General Public is hereby informed that one lady Namely: Sakshi, Wo: Ajay, R/o: H.No. 43/17, C Block, Gali No. 37, IP Colony, Swaroop Nagar, Delhi Age: 35 Years, Height: 5<sup>4</sup>", Complexion: Fair, Built: Normal, Deini Age: 35 Years, Height: 54", Complexion: Fair, Built: Normal, Face: Long, Wearing: Green Colour Suit and Cream Colour Salwar and Mehrun Colour Slipper in Feet has 10 AM from the area of P.S. Swaroop Nagar, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 01A, Dated 01.01.2021, has been

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

lodged at P.S. Swaroop Nagar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing lady but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing lady please inform the

SHEETAL DEVI

PS: North Rohini, Delhi

Ph.: 011-27048210

Sd/- SHO

Web-site: http://chi.nic.in E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in P.S. Swaroop Nagar, Delhi Fax: 011-24368639 Ph.: 011-27811415, 27811738 & 9868552256 DP/792/0N/2021

**SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED** 

Height: 5'2" Face: Round Built: Thin ID: Cut mark on right eve

made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to

light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing

kidnapped female then please inform P.S. North Rohini, Delhi

following Tel No./e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in and Website

Wearing: Grey colour suit and salwar. Sincere efforts have be

eneral public is hereby informed that or

emale namely Sheetal Devi W/o Rahul

Singh Chauhan R/o A-89, Pradhan

Enclave, Burari, Delhi has been missing/ kidnapped from the B-5/20, IGL Office 2nd

at P.S. North Rohini, Delhi. The

Age: 22 Years, Complexion: Fair

under.

http://cbi.nic.in

DP/700/RD/2021

Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641

Fax No. 011-24368639

Sec-7 Rohini, Delhi since 19.02.2021. In this regard, a case DD No. 38A Dated 20.02.2021 has been lodged

#### SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED General Public is hereby informed that



01262-281300

one female Namely: Meena, W/o: Che Bahadur, R/o: H. No. 65, Sawan leele ka Makan, Village - Rajapur, Sec-09, Rohini, Delhi has been missing/ kidnapped since 22.02.2021 from her house from the area of P. S. Prashant Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide DD No. 64A dated 23.02.2021 has been registered at P.S. Prashant Vihar,

Delhi. The description of the missing girl are as under: Age 33 years, Height: 4'6", Face: Round. Complexion: Shallow Built: Medium, Wearing: Purpul colour sweater, maroor colour shawl and slipper in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the female but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this female kindly inform to the following

Website: http//cbi.nic.in E-mail Id - cic@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 Fax No. 011-24368639 DP/701/RD/2021

P.S. Prashant Vihar, Delhi Tel.No. 011-27557184, 8750870325

#### NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE Building, State Entry Road, New Delhi for and on behalf of the President of India vites e-tender under Single Packet System for the under noted work:

Design, drawing, manufacturing, supplying an fixing of Spherical bearings as per approve design Load for 76 50m Page State Co. fixing of Spherical bearings as per approve design Load for 76.50m Bow String Girder a ROB Dhobi ghat in lieu of LC-153 (Kotgao Phatak) at Km. 20.21, near Ghaziabad Railwa

Approx. Cost of work Earnest Money to be deposited Nil

> 11.30 hrs on 23.03.2021. The detailed e-tender document is avwww.ireps.gov.in from 02.03.2021 to 23.03.2021.
> All other terms and conditions in second

Tender Notice No. 59-Acs/Dhobighat-bearing/SERD-II Dated-26-02-2021 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

station on GZB-SRE section. Completion period of the work 03 (Three) months.

Date & Time for submission of E-tender and opening of tender 

2.03.2021 on IREPS web site i.e. 
www.ireps.gov.in The bidders can participate i 
the e-tender, the Technical cum Commercia 
cum financial Bids of which will be opened a 
11.30 tes po 23.03.2021 Detailed Tender Notice &

All other terms and conditions in respect above tenders are given in tender document. The detailed tender notice also can be seen of the Notice Board of the above office.

Before the Central

Government Registrar of Companies, Delhi & Haryana

In the matter of sub-section (3) of section 13 of Limited liability Partnership Act 2008 and rule 17 of the Limited liability partnership rules 2009. In the matter of the Limited liability Partnership Act, 2008, section 13(3) and In the matter of Sharma Buildwell LLP (LLPIN:AAE-4427) having its registered office at MYZ (48/14 MS Block 2nd fines).

LLPIN:AAE-4427) having its registere office at WZ -483/1, MS Block, 2nd floo

Gali No.8, Road No.1, Hari Nagar, Delh

110064.....petitioner

Notice is hereby given to the general

public that the LLP proposes to make

etition to Registrar of companies, Delh

& Harvana under section 13 (3) of the

mited liability Partnership Act 200

eeking permission to change its reg stered office from the state of "Delhi" to

istered office from the state of "Delhi" t the state of "Haynana". Any person whose interest is likely to b affected by the proposed change of th registered office of the LLP may delive or cause to be delivered or send by reg istered post of his/ her objections sug-ported by an affidavit stating the natur of his/ her interest and grounds of port sition supported by an affidavit to the reg istrar of companies, Delhi & Harynan within 21 (Newty none) days from the dat

petitioner LLP at its registered office

Ouresh Sharm (Designated Partne) ADDRESS: H.No.362, Bawari Stree Noharia Bazar, Sirsa Haryana- 12505

Prasoon Lata, Advocate SG Associates Basement C 78 Sector 2 Noida 0120-4554882, 7011172764

ly client India Shelter Financi corporation Ltd. having its office at BP 9, 1st Floor, Neelam Bata Road NI aridabad 121001, has instructed me to ge

the following public notice published in you daily newspaper:-

"This notice is to notify the information to the

general public that Ms. Ruby W/o Mahes

general public that Ms. Ruby W/o Mahesh Kumar has approached my client. India Shelter Finance Corporation Ltd. having its office at BP - 49, 1st Floor, Neelam Bata Road NIT Fandabad 121001 for a housing loan. Sangeeta is the owner of House no. 53, area measuring 50 Sq. yards Part of khastra no. 31 min., Situated at Viharpura, Dundahera, Pargana Loni Telshi & Distt. Chaziabad, U.P., vide sale deed dated 30.07 2018. Mrs Sangeeta has lost one prior Original registered Sale Deed dated 13.05 2002 executed by Ballu in favour of Salamat Hussian and Baseer Hussin, in

Salamat Husain and Baseer Husain,

espect of above-mentioned property (Do No.2137 SR-Gzb 1). This original sale dee

No.2137 SR-C2b 1). This original sale deed has been lost and is not traceable to Mrs Sangeeta. That Mrs. Sangeet has also lodged a FIR before the UP police for the lost of the document vide Lost of Article Report no. 122033/2021, as she wants to sell the above mentioned property to her potential customer Mrs. Ruby, if anybody receive the same should return the sale deed to the below mentioned address. Further, any Descent before your loss of the first State Williams. Person having any type of claim/right/title nterest over the said property may inform in Limited, Delhi.
Therefore, all the customers of ICICI
Bank Limited are hereby notified not to
make any payment to any unauthorized
person holding the said ID card no.
06374 writing, at the address mentioned below about his objections, within 7 days from about his objections, within 7 days from today, failing which it shall be presumed tha the said property is free from all type o Encumbrances, lien etc. Any use of the above-mentioned documen will be considered illegal.

For ICICI Bank Limited
Date: 25.02.2021 ---Sd--Place: Delhi



# **GDP in positive trajectory a promising sign: India Inc** | New rules for social

India Inc on Friday said the recouping of the country's economy to a positive trajectory in the third quarter is a promising sign as it portends the end of the pandemicinduced recessionary phase seen in the first-half of the fis-

Industry bodies expressed confidence that the GDP will improve further in the coming months on the back of positive growth stimuli emanating from the Union Budget and initiatives like the Production Linked Incentive scheme unveiled by the government.

After contracting for two quarters in a row, the Indian economy grew by 0.4 per cent in the October-December quarter amid coronavirus pandemic, official data showed on

uct (GDP) had expanded by 3.3 per cent in the corresponding period of 2019-20, according to the data released by the National Statistical Óffice

Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, said that "recouping of GDP to the positive territory by posting a growth of 0.4 per cent in the third quarter is a promising sign as it portends the end of the pandemic-induced recessionary phase seen in the firsthalf of the year". He observed that one of

highlights of the data is the positive momentum seen in investment demand as it grew by 2.6 per cent in the third quarter after being in doldrums for several quarters now.

This bears testimony to the unrelenting efforts of the

day. to go all-out to revive investments under the ambit of

Sensex posts worst day in 10 months, sinks 1,940 pts amid global meltdown

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The BSE Sensex crashed about 1,940 points to post its biggest single-day fall in nearly 10 months and the NSE Nifty plunged over 568 points to crack below the psychological 15,000-mark on Friday, tracking global selloffs trig-gered by a panic in bond mar-kets overseas.

Investors also turned cautious ahead of the third quar-ter GDP data release, besides keeping an eye on simmering geopolitical tensions between

the various measures which formed a part of the Aatmanirbhar Bharat pack₹ logs worst day in nearly 19 mths, dives 104 paise against \$

Mumbai:The Indian rupee on Friday posted its biggest single-day fall in nearly 19 months, tumbling 104 paise to close at 73.47 against the US dollar as a rout in global bond markets weighed on investor sentiments. Besides, rising geopolitical tensions between the US and Syria also led to weaker appetite among investors in domestic forex markets, analysts said.

sures including the PLI will lead to a sturdy growth path over the recovery horizon," he

# media, OTT require right implementation: Nasscom

 $I^{\mathrm{T}}$  industry body Nasscom on Friday said the new rules for social media, OTT and digital media players aim to address concerns like grievance redres-sal, fake news and online safety, but will require the right implementation to ensure that they do not become onerous for the platforms.

There are, however, sections of the industry, including tech firm Mozilla, which felt that certain provisions could "harm" freedom of expression.

Nasscom noted that technology is becoming all pervasive and it is important that there is responsible use and building of technology for all stakeholders government,

industry, start-ups and citi-

Nasscom also highlighted it is imperative that there is a balance between regulation and innovation as the world is in a phase of accelerated technology shifts.

"...Code aims to address many of the concern areas of grievance redressal, fake news, online safety and parity with existing laws.

"From a user perspective The option of voluntary selfverification of user accounts and the right to receive an explanatory notification on removal or disablement of access and to seek remedy against the action being taken by the intermediaries should be helpful," Nasscom said.

#### PM asks banks to come out with innovative products for startups, fintech

New Delhi:Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday stressed on increasing credit to businesses to meet the needs of a fast reflating economy and said financial products will have to be tailor-made for fin-

tech and startups.

He said that although the government's endeavour is to promote the private sector, the public sector still needs to have their presence in banking and insurance to support the

Speaking at a webinar on Budget announcements on Financial Services, Modi said to help medium and small businesses during the COVID pan-demic, 90 lakh Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

(MSMEs) were given credit worth Rs 2.4 trillion. "Supporting MSME and startups and expanding credit flow to them is necessary. The government has undertaken reforms and opened up sectors like farm, coal and space. Now it's the responsibility of the financial sector to understand the aspirations of rural and smaller cities and make them the strength of Aatmanirbhar Bharat. "As our economy is growing, and growing fast, credit flow has also become equally important. You have to see how credit reaches new sectors, new entrepreneurs. Now you will have to focus on creation of new and better financial products for Startups and Fintech," Modi said.

Stating that Kisan Credit has helped small farmers and those involved in animal husbandry to come out with the grasp of informal lending,Modi said the private sector now will have to think of innovative financial products for this sec-tion of the society. PT

### Fiscal deficit soars to ₹12.34 lakh cr at end of January

The central government's fiscal deficit soared to ₹12.34 lakh crore or 66.8 per cent of the revised budget estimates at the end of January of the current fiscal

The fiscal deficit at the end of January in the previous financial year was 128.5 per cent of the Revised Estimates (RE). In the current fiscal ending March 31, the fiscal deficit is likely to touch Rs 18.48 lakh crore or 9.5 per cent of the

In absolute terms, the fiscal deficit stood at ₹12,34,004 crore at the end of January 2021, as per the data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA). The lockdown imposed to curb spreading of coronavirus infections had significantly impacted business activities and in turn contributed to sluggish revenue

realisation. realisation.

The fiscal deficit or gap between the expenditure and revenue had breached the annual target in the month of July during this financial year.

Bid Submission End Date & Time 8th March, 2021 up to 3.00 PM 8th March, 2021 up to 3.00 PM ast date of Submission of Banker eque/Demand Draft for Bid Fee, BID SECURITY, and Processing Fee

at 05.00pm
Will be intimated later to the Technically www.livelihoods.rajasthan.gov.in www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in/ http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in lidity of bids eriod Of Contract

Managing Director, RSLDC

### 'Bharat Vyapar Bandh' evokes lukewarm response

the US and Syria. At the day's close, the 30-share BSE Sensex settled

1,939.32 points or 3.80 per

cent lower at 49,099,99 - its

worst one-day fall since May

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty plunged 568.20 points or 3.76 per cent to close the session at 14,529.15 – the

biggest single-day drop since

30 constituents ended in the

red, with eight scrips logging

confident that the growth stim-

uli available from the Union

Budget and the additional mea-

On the Sensex chart, all

"Going forward, we are

March 23 last year.

over 5 per cent drop.

4 last year.

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The day-long 'Bharat Vyapar Bandh' called by the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) evoked a lukewarm response with most shops and commercial establishments open through the

er, claimed that shopkeepers supported its nationwide business shutdown call to protest against issues related to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) and "unethical business practices of foreign e-commerce

companies". Various markets in the

many saying that despite supporting the cause, they did not want to suffer another day of losses.

However, CAIT in a statement said the shutdown was a "grand success" as more than 8 crore small businesses belonging to about 40,000 trade associations across the

open but the association nationwide business shut-down. Traders declare Bandh as success, claim loss of ₹1L crore

New Delhi: A major trade union declared 'Bharat Vyapar Bandh' a success as more than eight crore small businesses onging to about 40 thousand trade associations were claimed to be closed for business on

The call for the bandh was given by the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT).

IANS

#### After petrol & diesel, consumers face cooking gas price rise

New Delhi:Government seems to be in no mood to subsidise the price of common mans cooking gas which like the price of auto fuels petrol and diesel has maintained consistent increase for past few

The price of domestic 14.2kg LPG cylinder was increased by ₹ 25 on Thursday, the third increase in the month of February itself, taking its price ₹794 a cylinder in Delhi. While the practice of week-

ly or fortnightly price revision of cooking gas is normally done for non-subsidised cylinders, this year oil companies shave maintained almost equal increase in price of subsidised LPG cylinders as well. *IANS* 

#### **Fuel price hike** on hold for 3rd consecutive day

New Delhi:Oil marketing companies on Friday continued with their wait and watch strategy and kept the retail price of petrol and diesel unchanged for the third consecutive day.

Accordingly, petrol continues to be sold at ₹90.93 a litre and diesel at ₹81.32 a litre in the national capital.

Elsewhere in the country as well, fuel prices remained unchanged after oil companies increased the pump price on 13 of the last 18 days.

In the 13 increases since February 9, prices have gone up by Rs 3.98 per litre for petrol while diesel rate has risen by Rs 4.19 a litre in Delhi.

Rajasthan Skill & Livelihoods Development Corporation
EMI Campus, J.8 A., Jhalana Institutional Area, Jaipur- 302004 (Rajasthan)
Ph: +91-0141-2703817, 5101248, Fax: +91-0141-5103246, www.rajasthanlivelihoods.org

NOTICE INVITING BID -NIB
tice Inviting Bid/Bid for Selection of a Competent and Qualified Bidder providing se
ence training to girls/women. The Bill/Bid shall only be submitted through only
the provided by the provided by

The schedule of dates is mentioned below	n.gov.in. The schedule of dates is follows:
Nature of Project	Procurement of Services for providing Self- Defence Training to girls/Women Through Training Partner for RSLDC
Cost of Bid/Bid Document (Nonrefundable)	Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand Only)
Bid Processing Fees (Nonrefundable)	Rs. 1000/- (Rupees One Thousand Only)
Estimated Project Cost	Rs. 23.00 Lakh (Including all Expenditures Statutory Liabilities except GST). GST will be paid if required as per rule.
Bid Security	2% of Project value. But Finance Department latest circular, in lieu of Bid Security Bid Declaration has to be taken in format attached with this Bid Document. As per FD (G&FR Division Dept.) Circular Dated. 23.12.2020 on Rs. 50 Stamp Paper.
Publishing Date and Time for Bid Document	25/02/2021
Document Download Start Date and Time	26/02/2021 from 11:00 am
Bid submission Start Date and Time	26/02/2021 from 11:00 am
Pre-Bid Meeting Date, Time & Venue	2nd March, 2021 up to 11.00 AM
Document Download End Date/Time	8th March, 2021 up to 3.00 PM
D110 1 1 1 D 10 1 D 1 D T	00.14 1.0004 1.000514

This procurement is doing according to provision of RTPP Act 2012 and rules 2011 and other applicable rules, so all provisions of these are applicable for this

#### SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General Public is hereby informed that one female Namely: Neelam, W/o: Deepak Kumar, R/o: N-129/27, Khilona Bagh, Delhi has been missing/ kidnapped from her house since 18.02.2021 at 12:30 pm. from the area of P.S. Model Town, Delhi, In this regard a case vide DD No. 85A dated 18.02.2021 has been registered at P.S. Model Town, Delhi. The description of the

missing/kidnapped female is as under:

Age: 20 years, Height: 5' 4", Face: Round, Built:
Normal, Complexion: Fair, Wearing: Yellow colour
saree with golden colour blouse and slipper in her feet.
Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the female but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this female kindly inform to the following.

Website: http//cbi.nic.in E-mail Id - cic@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 SHO P.S. Model Town, Delhi Fax No. 011-24368639 Ph.: 011-27459202, 8750870230 DP/688/NW/2021

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General public is hereby informed that one male namely Ravi, S/o Kishan Lal R/o H.No. 71. Karan Vihar, Kirari, Delhi, Age: 25 Years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Long, wearing White colour Shirt and Blue colour Pant, has been kidnapped/ missing from his house since 04.02.2021 at

11:00 AM. In this regard a DD No. 84A, Dated 15.02.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Aman Vihar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the male but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about him person, please inform undersigned.

Website : http://cbi.nic.in P.S. Aman Vihar, Delhi Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 24368641 Ph.: 011-27581812, 27581223 DP/692/RD/2021

#### day. The traders' body, howevcountry kept their shutters down and no trading activity took place in any commercial

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

FORM NO. URC.2

Advertisement giving notice about registration under Part I of Chapter

XXI[Pursuant to section 374(b) of the companies Act, 2013 and rule 4(1) of

Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 366 of

the Companies Act, 2013, an application is proposed to be made after fifteen

days hereof but before the expiry of thirty days hereinafter to the Registrar at

Delhi that BLUE LOTUS PROJECTS LLP may be registered under Part I of Chapter

2. The principal objects of the company are as follows: To carry on the business

of Constructing/Renting/Leasing Banquet Halls, Resorts, Kids play area and

3.A copy of the draft memorandum and articles of association of the proposed

company may be inspected at the office at SHOP NO F-1, MANISH METRO

4. Notice is hereby given that any person objecting to this application may

communicate their objection in writing to the Registrar at Central Registration

Centre (CRC), Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), Plot No. 6,7,8, Sector 5,

IMT Manesar, District Gurgaon (Haryana), Pin Code - 122050, within twenty one

days from the date of publication of this notice, with a copy to the company at its

DATED THIS 27th FEBRUARY 2021

**SEARCH FOR MISSING BOY** 

Name(s)of Applicant

2. Rohiit Pratap Singh Chauhan

PS Prem Nagar, Delhi

Ph. 011-25489080

General public is hereby informed that

one boy namely Prashant S/o Raj Kumar R/o D-287, Inder Enclave-II, Kirari, Delhi. Age 15 years, Height 5'3", Complexion

wheatish, Face oval wearing White colour

shirt, Blue colour pant and Green jacket

has been missing since 11.02.2021.

Sincere efforts have been made by local

police to trace out this boy, but no clue

1. Asha Kumari Singh

PLAZA-4 PLOT NO-4 POCKET-5, SECTOR-12 DWARKA, NEW DELHI - 110075.

XXI of the Companies Act 2013, as a company limited by shares.

national capital were open on Friday during the Bandh with

other properties for giving them on hire.

reaistered office

the companies (Authorised to Register) Rules, 2014]

market Brijesh Goyal, president of Chamber of Trade and Industry (CTI), said most of the markets in Delhi were extended its support to the

Friday.

#### GAPIO to be held on 27-28 February 2021

New Delhi: The Global Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (GAPIO), a non-profit organization, and leading association for the Indian medical diaspora announced the organizing of its annual Global Indian Physicians Congress on February 27th - 28th 2021. The Congress has become an important event in the medical calendar where the exchange of knowledge from subject specialists from across the world takes

This year's virtual conference will provide an international forum to delegates to share their knowledge and exchange ideas on clinical skill development, solutions to contemporary health issues and modernizing the approach to delivering healthcare. Dr Harsh Vardhan, the Hon'ble Health Minister, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare will be the Chief Guest.

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Meenu Malik, W/o Subodh Malik, R/o J-3/20, DDA Flats, Kalkaji, Delhi-110019 am the sole owner and possessor of properties Nos. 507 & 509, Vishal Chambers, P-1, Sector-18, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, The original Flat Buyer Agreements Dt. 06.04.1998 and 11.04.1998, with endorsements Dt. 01.08.2001 have been misappropriated, qua which I got lodged FIRs Nos. 602/19 and 305/20 at PS Kalkaji. I have received certified copies of the title documents from the builder/promoter. For additional details, you can reach me at meenumalik1@hotmail.com



COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTURE (A statutory Authority of Government of India under Architects Act, 1972)

India Habitat Centre, Core 6A, 1st Floor, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003

#### **EXAMINATION NOTICE: NATA 2021**

File No./CA/NATA/2021/01

Dated: 26.02.2021

Attention: Students, Parents, Architectural Institutions and all concerned Subject:- Announcement of dates for First &

Second Tests of NATA 2021. The Council of Architecture is pleased to announce that the First Test and Second Test of National Aptitude Test in Architecture (NATA) 2021

examination, shall be held on April 10, 2021 and June

12, 2021, respectively. The NATA 2021 Brochure with important dates for both the tests shall be uploaded shortly on the websites www.nata.in and www.coa.gov.in. The NATA portal shall also be operational in due course to facilitate students to apply for registration of First &

The candidates desirous to appear for NATA 2021 are advised to refer to the said websites for latest updates. New Delhi Registrar

### Metro Railway, Kolkata Kolkata's Pride

Tender No.: 02205325 agains E-Procurement Tender Notice No. late and time of the above tender should be

FASTER + SAFER + SMOOTHER + CLEANER

ad as "01.03.2021 at 14.00 hrs." instea

of "11.02.2021 at 14.00 hrs."

No. 4 area Measuring 60 Sq. Yds., out of Rect. No. 52, Killa No. 18/1 &18/2, Situated in the area of Village Khureji

All person's having any claim against or in respect of the said Property, or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable/registered or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, family arrangement, maintenance, bequest, partnership, possession, lease, sublease, tenancy, license, lien, charge, pledge, easement or otherwise howsoever, are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 7 days from the date hereof, failing which the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned and All person/s having any claim against or in have been waived and/or abandoned and our client shall proceed with the disbursement of loan for purchase of the said Property and subsequent creation of

# DELHI JAL BOARD : GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI OFFICE OF THE EX. ENGINEER (E&M)BP 100 MGD BHAGIRATHI WATER TREATMENT PLANT GOKALPURI : DELHI-110094

STOP CORONA: MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCE, WEAR MASK, KEEP HANDS HYGINIC -PREES Short Tender Notice - N .I. T. No. 06 (2020-21 )/Re-invite Date of Uploading on E-Procurement solution/Tender ID Date of Estimated cost/Earnest Description of work

26-02-2021/ 2021\_DJB\_200598\_1 Shifting of part of Jal Vihar main 1200 mm dia into G.K. main 1200mm dia at Vikas Marg under Bhagirathi plant. For further details in this regard can be seen at https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in

EE (E&M) BP

04-03-2021 at 03.15 PM

#### SEARCH FOR MISSING

In this regard a case FIR No. 94/21 dated 12.02.2021 U/s

Any person having any information or clue about this missing

boy may kindly inform to the undersigned at the address or

363 IPC has been registered at PS Prem Nagar, Delhi.



has come to light so far.

telephone nos, given below.

Website: http://cbi.nic.in

Ph: 011-23014046, 23015218

Email: cic@cbi.gov.in Fax: 011-23011334

General Public is hereby informed that a girl namely Kajal D/o Prahlad, R/o R-2A 73 Mohan Block Gali No.6, West Sagarpur, Delhi has been missing from house since 20.02.2021 from around 9.30 AM the area of PS, Aman Vihar, Delhi, In this regard a DD No.01A, Dt.: 20.02.2021 has been lodged at PS, Aman Vihar, Delhi. The description of Missing girl is as

Name: Kajal, Father's Name: Prahlad, Age: 18 years, Height: 5'3", Complexion: Fair, Wearing: White colour

suit & purple colour salwar If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned.

Website: http://cbi.nic.in e-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in Fax : 011-24368639 Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 DP/698/RD/2021

P.S., Aman Vihar, Delhi Ph: 011-27581812 7065036123

### Kamal Kant Gupta (Advocate) Shop No. 5 & 6, Pkt-E, CSC, Mayur Vihar-II

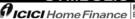
#### PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE is hereby given that Smita Bhardwaj is the owner of House Bearing

Situated in the area of Village Khureji Khas, abadi of Grut Angad Nagar Exth., Laxmi Nagar, Illaqa Shahdara, Delhi-110092 by virtue of Sale Deed dated Qc.07.2018 (Doc. No. 3903) executed by Mr. Rahul Jain and Mr. Kapil Jain son/legal heirs of Late Naresh Kumar Jain owned by Relinquishment Deed dated Qc.04.2018 (Doc. No. 1919)

mortgage in respect thereof

E, CSC, Mayur Vihar-II Delhi-91, 9810063351

#### ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V. 447 (2020-21) SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE



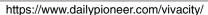
Picici Home Finance
Bandra (East), Mumbai- 400051
Corporate Office: RPG Towers, Andheri Kurla Road, J.B. Nagar, Andheri (East), Mumbai- 40005
Branch Office: Plot No. 7, 2nd Floor, Block-N, Sec-18, Noida UP-201301

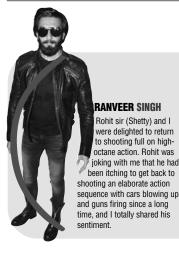
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Limited under the Secuntisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement)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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of property/ Date of Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Jeenesh Kumar (Borrower), Monu (Co-borrower) NHNOD00001267807	Flat No.C-1907,19th Floor, Oasis Venetia Heights Plot No.HRA 12A, Group Housing Sector, Surajpur Site C (Extension) Phase-II Greater Noida 201307. Bounded By: East- Flat No. C-1901 & 1902, West- Other Property, North- Staircase, South- Lift & Passage/ Date of Possession- 24-Feb-21	30-01-2020 Rs.29,80,792/-	Noida-B

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

Authorized Officer ICICI Home Finance Company Limited





#### HORT CIRCUITS



#### **AVINASH TIWARY**

An actor can only choose what is offered to him. So, it seems like the films that have come to me reflect the kind of work that I have always wanted to do. It is not a conscious choice of doing something. There is nothing by intent here but I am just fortunate that I get to do the roles which most actors



#### **PRIYA BANERJEE**

forthcoming series Bekaahoo 2, is full of twists and turns. My character Kashti is very close to my heart. It made me push my boundaries and discover more within myself. It made me grow professionally as well as personally. I cannot wait to see what the show is going to look like.



#### **ALY GONI**

During Bigg Boss 14 my intention to play for my friends was good. I'm that way in the outside world too For me, relationships matter a lot. It never crossed my mind that playing for my friends will make my game strong. I was just being true to myself. I game point of view.

#### **KELLY MARIE TRAN** It is so exciting to be the

first Southeast Asian Disney Princess. It is a big deal. It feels like a really big honour and a big responsibility at the same time, and I want to do justice to it. I'm really grateful.



#### **ENCOUNTER 45 MINUTES —**

# ON THE EDGE OF JUNGLE BOOK

Experiencing the wild can have a surprisingly calming effect, realises SAIMI SATTAR

¬his was damaged by a tusker which had taken affront to a tiger having dared to cross his path," said Bhagwati Prasad Dhyani, gesturing to the remains of a magnificent column at the Vatanyasa Gate which marks the entry into the 301. 17 sq km of the Kalaghar Tiger Reserve lies in the Lansdowne division of the Pauri district of Uttarakhand. It is a part of the 1,286 Corbett National Park where Dhyani has been working as a Van Daroga with the Uttarakhand Forest Department since 2003. While the big cat got away, the gate which proclaimed the existence of the feline species — with a photograph — within the Kalaghar Tiger Reserve was not as lucky. He gestured to the building next to the gate and said, "I was standing on the roof top and crouching. It was a sight, both scary and magnifi-cent at the same time, which surpassed much of what I've seen." Incidentally, Dhyani, while walking home one day, encountered a tiger less than three feet away. He just stood and waited. "The truth is just like any other animal which is a prey for the carnivores, humans too can't react or even say a word when we are face to face with any of the big cats. We are stunned into silence," he said. The tiger walked away and Dhyani lived to recount the tale. As he continued to regale us with incidents kind, we spotted a fox quickly making

This unexpected meeting with Dhyani set the tone for our entire trip especially since the time we crossed Kotdwar. Even before we reached Vatanvasa gate which demarcates the starting point of the jungle safari, we'd lost count of the number of times wild fowls had crossed our path, screeching and scrambling as the car came careening down the road. On the way there were also scattered hutments enclosed by electric wires to ensure that the wild animals did not gatecrash as uninvited guests at a family dinner.

Producer Maneesh Sharma and direc-

Ptor Sharat Katariya were in sheer dis-belief when they won the prestigious National Film Awards for Best Feature Film in Hindi for Dum Laga Ke Haisha

(DLKH). On the sixth release anniversary of the film starring Ayushmann Khurrana and Bhumi Pednekar, the duo

opened up about their journey into making this fresh, timeless romance.

ducer at YRF. What made you take the as a producer?

others are tripped into the pool. I am def-initely the latter. Producing films was

nowhere in my scheme of things but I

had not anticipated the plans of Aditya Chopra. Shuddh Desi Romance had just released and I was prepping for anoth-

er film. One fine day, a conversation ini-

tiated by Adi led to me becoming a pro-ducer pretty much overnight. C 'est la

□Did you expect this reaction to the

film while you were writing it?

Sharat: No, one is not thinking any

kind of (such thing), one is always

unsure and is trying to write with the

best possible ideas. There was no expec-

tations. Yes, I was overwhelmed by the reaction but never expected it like that.

☐ As a producer, what are the kind of stories that you want to tell?

vie! (such is life)

Maneesh: Some take the plunge



#### HIT THE ROAD

The four of us had started much before dusk from Delhi but, since we were more focussed on having a good time rather than reaching the destination at any fixed time, we finally arrived at the resort in the late afternoon. But if you are the kind of traveller who doesn't care much to stop at scenic spots to soak in the views during a journey, it can take about seven and a half hours. It was fascinating to watch the sunlight make patches on the surface as it streamed in through the tree cover as the car ploughed its way through the wooded road. It was akin to chasing clouds in the sky, which has been one of my favourite past times since child-hood. It smelled green due to the dense trees, which was a sensorial delight and an immediate mood lifter for a city-slick-

WHAT LIES INSIDE

The part through which we were travelling is in the Pauri Garhwal region which encompasses 70 per cent of the Corbett Tiger Reserve while the remain-ing 30 per cent in Kumaon, where Jim Corbett — the legendary tiger conservationist — lived. With a mix of elevation

at a film festival with the audience. I still

don't know what worked with the audi-

ence, but I am assuming that may be the

comedy or the characters. I really don't

know what was new in it because when

I hear the word 'fresh', I can't figure out

exactly what was fresh in it? I can't break

it down for myself. If I could, I would

and plains, varied temperatures and sev es of frequent spottings and keeps them
— sometimes making people fearful.

#### LANDING GROUND

At Vanvasa Resort in Juee village, home for the next three nights, I met another visitor, Sudheer Gusain, who recalled that while driving, early in the morning, he was practically sandwiched in between two elephants. "In those five seconds, a thousand thoughts raced through my mind. Whether I should wake my three friends and run while leaving the vehicle behind or park quietly in one corner or speed off and more," he said. He chose to step on the horn and the gas to make a quick getaway as he knew that elephants, when angry, could be extremely dangerous.

Vanvasa, which means abode in the forest, actually lives up to the idea that went in naming it. It is an existence that is unhurried, almost a step back in time. Mobile connectivity is low and there are no TVs in the rooms to ensure that the real world does not encroach upon the cocoon that you are lulled into — how-

ever temporary. The chirping of birds rather than incessant honking of horns makes for a pleasant distraction. The faint rustling of trees creates an ambience which is so relaxed that it makes you sink deeper into its comfort even though it is faintly unfamiliar or buried deep into a nostalgic past of a city slicker in her 40s.

One evening I decided to catch up with the hotelier, Satender Rawat, who much like me had spent much of his adult life in the capital, before deciding to step back and connect with the land of his ancestor. This property spread over 30 acre, powered by his vision, foregoes commercial gains in favour of ensuring that each of the cottages and one villa has unobstructed view of the mountains. "Three more rooms are coming up and eventually I plan to have 40," said Rawat for whom it is clearly a passion project. A clear indication of the same are the more than a 1,000 variety of trees carted from Meerut, Kolkata and even Bengaluru. Rawat showed me around pointing out each of the trees by its common and botanical names. When I asked him about the number of gardeners, he

answered with an impish smile, "Just one.

water the plants. Transplanting full-grown trees takes a minimum of six months but it adds to the experience of

On the last day of our stay, we accompanied a steward, Soori — who looks older than his 45-years, thanks to his grey hair, but is surprisingly agile on his feet — to see a huge water tank being contour than the surprising structed to supplement the existing wate resource. A tiger pugmark near the tank which is about three km away from the resort, was the real attraction. An amazing raconteur, Soori told us about the goings-on in the surrounding villages, pointed out herbs and imparted local wis

On our way back, we competed to test our physical fitness at the outdoor adven-ture sports area. It was here that Rawat, who by that time had come to check upon our well-being, told us that he calls Soori his 'local reporter' — clearly for a reason — and promised us that the journalist fraternity had more up its sleeves. He was hinting at Soori's talent which is not limited to story-telling. At night, on a day when the resort which is usually full-up was deserted as it was the mid-week after a long weekend, Soori entertained us by singing Garhwali and Nepali songs which was accompanied by energetic dancing in the gazebo attached to the dining area. Equipped with a keyboard, a TT table and more, it doubles up as an activity area where, in the evening, there is a magic tricks show for children and a musical one for adults. It was in the gazebo that Rahul Mukherjee and Frank, the in-house singers, entertained us with a mix of slow, romantic and fast-paced songs every

The fourth morning, after a leisure-ly breakfast of *Bichchu buti ka saag*, a local delicacy, and potato spring onion gravy cooked in Garhwali style, we hit the road on our way to the capital. And while I carried the fond memories of the place and the people, I also left a part of me behind.

Till we take abode in the forest...again.
Photo Courtesy: Pankaj Kuma

#### CELEB TALK 15 MINUTES —



### Kriti juggles between shoots

ter wrapping her shooting schedule for Farhad Asamji's Bachchan Pandey, Kriti has already started the shoot of her next horror-comedy, Bhediya's Mumbai schedule. Directed by Amar Kaushik, the film will also star Varun Dhawan.
With shooting back to back for her films, it looks

like the actress has no time to spare. Confirming the same, a source revealed, "Kriti has been keeping extremely busy with her hectic schedule and is working hard to balance all her forthcoming projects. In between Bhediya, she will also shoot for a song for her film, *Mimi*. To be all prepared and ready, the actress is rehearsing every night post her shoot."

Recently, the actress created quite a stir on the internet with her sexy biker look for her film Ganapath directed by Vikas Behl where she will be seen opposite Tiger Shroff. Having a packed slate for the year, the actress is all set to surprise her fans and

#### STUDIO CHAT 30 MINUTES

# Ticking many boxes

On the sixth anniversary of the film Dum Laga Ke Haisha, producerdirector MANEESH SHARMA and SHARAT KATARIYA remember their disbelief and joy when the film bagged a prestigious award and connected well with the audience. By TEAM VIVA

□When you and Sharat were teaming

up for the film, what were your expec-

Maneesh: All we really hoped was for

the audience to connect with the grounded and nostalgic quality of the

narrative. The love and warmth the film

has received overtime, does validate our

conviction. Each film has its own mea-



Maneesh: Irrespective of which role I am engaged in a film with — producer, director or story writer — I rely

a lot on my instinct. It's a lot to do with what feels right at that stage of life and you click with a narrative or a character or a genre and you back your instinct and commit to investing your time and energy to the process. So far, that's mostly worked for me. I guess.

□What do you think is the USP of the

film that it became a hit? Sharat: Honestly, I don't know. I saw the film a year after it was released, again, sure of ambition. This one did tick many

□The film gave a new pairing (Ayushmann-Bhumi) to people who have now had a hattrick of hits. Why do you think people have loved them ever since?

Sharat: It's just their talent nothing else. It's their talent of getting into the skin of the character and becoming the characters they've asked for, for any film that they do. And I'm sure that is why their films and performances work.

□What was the first thing you and Sharat said to each other when you won

the National Award for the film?

Maneesh: Kya baat kar raha hai! (What are you saying?)

□What was your reaction when you won the National Award for the film?

Sharat: I have very fond memories. I'll tell you bit by bit what happened. My first reaction was like Oh God! I won't be able to work the whole day now. First, it wasn't sinking in but it sank when there were multiple phone calls, post which I remember calling Maneesh. I told him that the film has won a National Award, not just for the film but also for the best singer (Monali) and Varun (Grover) for the best lyrics as well. So, he was also equally surprised. And then phone calls started coming in non-stop. This has never happened to me in my life. It was really an overwhelming experience.

## Broaden your horizons

Working in the teleplay Gidh made actor SANA JAFRI push her creative boundaries

Director and producer Kanwal Khoosat's teleplay Gidh revolves around two women protagonists bound together by their shared misety. The teleplay starring Sana Jafri, Rasti Farooq, and Adeel Afzal delves into the life of Saleema and an unexpected visitor Salma who claims to be her sister-in-law.

As the plot unfolds, both the women share the trials of their respective lives which they had to undergo because of the same man — Junaid, Salma's brother, and Saleema's husband. Together, they decide to do put an end to their suffering. What in fact transpires changes one of their lives forever, but not in a predictable

way.
Sana says, "Working with Kanwal has been definitely the best experience of my life because she brought out the creative aspects in me that I didn't even know could translate onto the screen. Each line that Kanwal wrote had two or more meanings and it was tough to express them all without actually saying what the character was going through."

The teleplay format, she says, was tricky because she is a trained theatre actor but Kanwal blended the two genres and translated them harmo-

niously for the small screen. Kanwal also helped her to push her creative boundaries.





Sana adds, "We rehearsed the teleplay just like we do in theatre and that process was very helpful. Also, the fact that we were a team of five women helped. Whenever we got stuck creatively, our art director, Kanwal, myself, Rasti, and our assistant shared our real-life experiences which helped us move forward. This ensemble of five amazing women who had so much to share with each other really helped me as an

(The teleplay will stream on Airtel Spotlight on February 28 at 2 pm and 6 pm.)







**JUKEBOX 45 MINUTES =** 



Picture this: Six teams, representing different regions of India. resenting different regions of India, battling it out against each other in a musical championship. Each of these championship. Each of these teams are supported by leading Bollywood and sports celebrities like Bobby Deol, Rajkummar Rao, Shraddha Kapoor along with Shakti Kapoor and Siddhanth Kapoor, Riteish and Genelia Deshmukh, Govinda Genelia Deshmukh, Govinda along with Sunita and Tina Ahuja and Suresh Raina. Also, the teams have two top playback singers as their captains along with one reality show star and one fresh voice. Doesn't this resemble the concept of IPL (The Indian Premier League), a professional Twenty20 cricket match contested by different teams representing various states

of India? While we've seen many sports leagues over the past few decades, Zee TV's latest show — Indian Pro Music League — is the first ever music league reality show which infuses the competitive energy of sports into music with super matches, league matches and so on. While Shilpa Rao is the captain of Mumbai Warriors, Shaan and Aakriti Kakar head Bengal Tigers, Asees Kaur leads Punjab Lions and Sajid Khan commands Delhi

Jammers. All the captains came together to speak about the show.

Since people have always enjoyed and embraced this format in sports, can we expect the same response for music? Aakriti feels that people are going to take

# A MUSICAL BOUT

While we've seen many sports leagues over the past few decades, *Indian Pro Music League* is the first ever reality show which infuses the competitive energy of sports into music with super matches, league matches and so on. By Ayushi Sharma

some time to understand the concept. "Even we took a while. But it's going to be a lot of fun. Shaan and I will make sure that we just don't keep singing our own songs because that will become mundane. Our goal is to give a different spin to each song. There are different themes to almost every episode. There are various categories and genres given to us. Singers Mika Singh, Kailash Kher, Sajid Khan, Shaan, Ankit Tiwari, Javed Ali, Asees Kaur, Bhoomi Trivedi, Payal Dev, Neha Bhasin, Shilpa Rao will don the hat of captains of the six zonal teams. I am sure it's going to be

a huge hit," she says. Sajid adds, "Wahan bat aur ball chalta hai, yeha pe sur aur taal, drum and guitar chalega. Even though cricket is like a religion in India, I feel people can still live without it, but music — I don't think so.'

Aakriti always loves to be challenged. She says, "There's a bit of a challenge because I am a



judge on Sa Re Ga Ma Pa on Zee Bangla. There I am judging the contestants and here, I am the one who is going to be judged. It's like practicing what you preach, so it shouldn't come across as a hollow claim. And actually that's where the fun is."

Shilpa shares, "Music is one thing that you like... be it in any form. It has that universal connect with people. The whole point of this format is to get 18 artistes of the same stature and six new talents on one stage, which is the biggest task for any

Ask her if Shilpa finds it challenging, she instantly says, "What? To be yourself? No! That is the least challenging thing for me. The only test is to be a better performer on a daily basis and be a better version of yourself. When you are competing with yourself, that's the real challenge to be in."

Asees hopes that just like IPL is a big success in our country, this

show carries the same magic!
Usually in a music reality show there are different teams fighting to win. Here, there is an involvement of various states and their representation. Has this made the show more personal for the audience as well as for the singers? Well, Aakriti tells us that initially when she was approached for the show, she had the option of choosing two-three teams because she's a Delhi girl, who is a Punjabi, born and brought up in Mumbai. She especially chose Bengal because "the kind of love I've received from the state is just unbelievable. My connection with Bengal has been very strong since the beginning."

Shaan explains that representing states is a very superficial part of the show. "For instance, MS Dhoni represents Chennai but it's not like he was born in Chennai or he has any connection with the state. It's a voting-based show so it's become very difficult if you just leave it at everyone votes for everyone'. It also becomes even more subjective then. I am a Bengali, so I have been given a team titled Bengal Tigers. Mikaji (Singh) is Punjabi so he has been given Punjab Lions. But if we talk about Kailashji (Kher), he has got Mumbai Warriors but he is not from Mumbai. So we were just given these choices just for the sake of representation and to give

a superficial colour," shares Shaan. Sajid and Shilpa tell us that the show depicts different cultures and a variety of music from var-ious states. "The show's mantra is Music Uncha Rahe Hamara. So at the end, it all comes down to one thing i.e. music. It doesn't matter who took the trophy. It's a win for music," they say.

(The show airs on Zee TV

every Saturday and Sunday at 8



### Return to real experience

Actor GULSHAN GROVER says that films in theatres will bring back the festivity

Veteran actor Gulshan Grover says he has V respect for OTT platforms but theatres define the festive experience of watching films, and it is something that has been missing over

the past year.
"For almost a year now, we have been watching films and series on OTT in our homes. We have been watching content from across the world. The OTT has its own advantages but we also want to get out there and want to have a real experience of watching a film," said Grover at the trailer launch of the forthcoming film *Mumbai* Saga in Mumbai.

About filmmakers who have gone ahead and released films amid COVID protocol, he added, "It's a gutsy and courageous move from producers and entertainers that we care for the audience. Accepting the idea of 50 per cent capacity in theatres is a big step for financiers, producers and actors because the numbers are going to be count-

The Sanjay Gupta directorial *Mumbai Saga* is set in the eighties and the nineties. It chronicles the changing landscape of Mumbai when mills were being replaced by malls and highrise building.

"We have respect for OTT platforms. They are here to stay and they will be an integral part of our lives, but when you release a film on OTT there is no festivity, no celebration, no noise. There is no getting together of people, no one calls you and expresses his enthusiasm of watching the

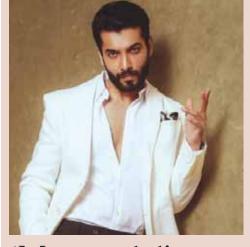
film," Grover said.
"The festivity was missing, the publicity was missing, the excitement was missing. So, it all comes back. As for competition among producers, there is no competition at the moment. They all want to get to a theatre somehow or the other. (Industry) People will make way for others and will celebrate success of other producers," he

Mumbai Saga features John Abraham, Emraan Hashmi, Suniel Shetty, Kajal Aggarwal, Rohit Roy, Anjana Sukhani, Mahesh Manjrekar, Prateik Babbar, Amole Gupte, Samir Soni, Shaad Randhawa and Gulshan Grover. The film is set for a theatrical release on March 19.

**DRAMA 30 MINUTES** 

# Romance and revenge

Director AARAMBHH M SINGH says that Jamai 2.0 features thrill, drama, suspense and mystery. By Ayushi Sharma



### 'My mood dictates my fashion'

Actor Sharad Malhotra, Awho recently achieved two million followers on Instagram, has often floored fans with his fashion choices. His jackets, particularly, are a huge hit with his admirers.

"I love jackets. I'm particular about what I wear and my mood sort of dictates my choice of clothes. Keeping it simple yet fashionable is what I prefer. My choice is governed by comfort. Having a fashion designer wife is a plus (laughs softly). Ripci (his wife) is my go-to person every time I need any help," says Sharad.

Recently seen in the show Naagin 5, the actor is right now planning his next career move.

"I am reading scripts and discussing projects. I have liked two to three things but have not signed up on any-thing as of now. Talks are on, see what falls into place," he claims, adding that he is open to TV, films and web shows. He has been

approached for music videos, too.

"An artiste just needs a platform and an audience. I don't want to restrict myself into just one medium but explore everything that is chalexplore everyuning that is char-lenging and exciting that comes my way. I enjoy per-forming different characters having different shades. If the story and my part are good enough, I can even perform on the streets and entertain my audience. I value the art more than everything else," he says.

He recently went to Dubai with his wife to rejuvenate. Talking about his holiday, he says: "Holidays gets the best out of me. This time around things were different. We all were stuck at home, not sure when we could go for a vaca-tion. So this holiday was special. I love visiting Dubai not just because of how beautiful and welcoming it is but also for my fans in the city."



pproximately seven years ago, Approximately seven years ago, *Jamai Raja* aired on television and since then, the show carved its name in the memory of the viewers It ended following an effective threeyear run. Now, its second installment Jamai 2.0 is back on the digital platform Zee5 with a bigger plot twist.

☐How did you conceptualise the show? How is it different from the first installment?

Since it is a second season, the story line has been carried forward. The producers of the show, Viniyard Films came up with the story line for this season based on the research

done by the OTT platform post first season. I was shared the brief of what audience was expecting from season two and I worked around it. I feel season one was more action oriented while season two kept the emotional quotient and love at the forefront. We have focussed on Ravi (Dubey) and Nia's (Sharma) chemistry, while ensuring that Achint Kaur's character doesn't loose its shine since it has been the encashing point from day one. Her character brings the required edge to the show.

□An insight into the storyline.. between romance and revenge... Sidharth (played by Ravi) is looking for Roshni's (played by Nia) brother who had killed his sister 10 years ago... Roshni discovers it and chooses to side with her brother, who she believes is innocent. Thus, they find themselves at loggerheads. It's a fight where there is no winning. It's either love or family. Sid has always shown that he is in love with Roshni but we wonder if his feelings are real or simply a part of his plan. What will Sid and Roshni choose is the suspense of

□The story of revenge is not a It's a story of two lovers torn novel theme, what made you sure that the audience would not skip the



second season of the show?

There are limited genres and only even types of stories form archetypes that have engaged human attention for centuries. It's the characters which make the story different from one another and pull the audience to watch it. *Jamai 2.0* already has its success formula. The audience has loved Ravi, Nia and Achint since the TV show days and that's the reason when the OTT platform decided to experiment with TV crossover web show. Their obvious choice was Jamai being the most successful show on television.

□At a time when the OTT space is

booming with content driven projects, how do think a show like this will work? Well, because this is content dri-

ven show too. It is high on emotional quotient and has been written in sync with today's time

☐Your experience of working with Nia, Ravi and Achint...

It has been really great. Working with Achint has been a dream come true since I have grown up watching her. Ravi's energy and dedication towards his work is rare in today's ors and Nia surprises me spontaneity. I can promise that this season will make audience laugh and cry at the same time.

□We don't see much of masala content these days, instead there's a surge in the realistic genre like biopics, real-life events. What type

of content, according to you, will prevail in the post-COVID era? One thing which has changed during COVID times is viewership of the audience. People have started consuming more and more OTT content. They want to be safe and secure, and watch shows from the comfort of their homes, rather than heading out often. That has brought surge of demand for new shows for sure. But there can't be one particular set of genre that will prevail because the audience differs. They love to be spoilt with various choices. Also, I do agree that we are moving towards more realistic content these days. Its demand has been increasing rapidly. I feel people need encouragement and want to watch inspiring stories, thus, biopics have a huge scope of going forward.

What are your forthcoming proiects?

While Jamai 2.0 has been released yesterday, I am finishing my edit for another webshow, a psycho-logical thriller, which will be go on air in March on ALTBalaji.

# It's all about confidence, Axar on Test outings

t was a long wait for Axar Patel and it didn't help that Leveryone around him had just one question for the past three years — "Why aren't you in the Indian team?"

But Patel was unfazed as he knew, his time would come.

"I think it's all about confidence," said the 27-year-old from Anand in Gujarat who wanted to be a mechanical engineer growing up but was prodded into trying his hand at cricket by a school friend.

With his record 11 wickets in the Day-Night third Test against England, the left-arm spinner finally found his big moment in International cricket, seven years after he made his India debut in an ODI against Bangladesh. Since that day, he has been

in and out of the team with the spin all-rounder's spot firmly with Ravindra Jadeja.

In this series too, he made it because Jadeja was out injured. He hadn't been in the national team since 2018 and made his Test debut in the second game against England last week in Chennai.

"I have been out of the team for three years and at that time, I used to think about the areas of my game which need to be worked upon. So, I was working on my bowling and batting," he told Hardik Pandya in a bcci.Tv interview, thoroughly enjoying his good time.
"When you are out of the



team, many people, friends keep asking you 'why aren't you in the team despite doing well?' These things keep coming in the mind" said the howler who has 152 wickets in 41 first-class game at an impressive average of 25.25.

"So, I told myself 'just wait

front of his home crowd in the fourth and final Test against England, starting here on "(The Day-Night Test) was

my second Test and first in Motera. It's a special feeling to play and perform before the home crowd. My efforts would be to do the same," Patel said.

Towards the end of the light-hearted interview, India skipper Virat Kohli also made an appearance and appreciated

Patel's performance in Gujarati.
"Ae Bapu taari bowling kamaal chhe! (Bapu, your bowling is wonderful!)," Kohli said

#### EXPECTED WICKET TO HOLD UP LITTLE LONGER

England head coach Chris Silverwood on Friday played down talks of lodging any for-mal complaint to the ICC regarding the Motera pitch but said he had expected the surface to hold up a little longer after his team lost the third Test against India inside two days.

"First and foremost, just to follow up from what Joe (Root) said yesterday, he got five for 8, but at the same time whatever the pitch did or didn't do, India ultimately played better than us on that surface, probably pushed us to the extremes of which our players haven't experienced before," he said during a virtual press confer-

"We did expect the wicket to hold up a little longer than it did," he added.

# I became a cricketer accidentally: Ashwin

alled a modern day legend by his captain Virat Kohli, ace Indian off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin says he is actually an accidental cricketer, who is living a dream with over 400 Test wickets under his belt.

Ashwin reached the milestone in the Day-Night third Test against England, which ended here on Thursday with India winning by 10 wickets inside two days. Ashwin picked up seven in the match to take his overall tally to 401.

"I accidentally became a cricketer. I am actually a cricket lover who went on to become a cricketer. I am living my dream here, I never imagined that I will wear the Indian jersey one day and I will play," Ashwin told *bcci.Tv* in an interview

but did not elaborate on the remark.

According to Ashwin, being in the Covid-19 lockdown made him realise just how lucky he was to play

"And every time I finish play-ing a game and if I give that winning result for the team, I just feel I am being given a blessing, but the Covid times made me feel how lucky I am to actually play for India.

"Even when I came back after the IPL, I never thought I will play in Australia, so that is what I said everything has been a gift, for the love with which I play the game, the game is giving me back enough and more laurels," he added.

Ashwin, who also became the second fastest bowler to reach the 400 Test wicket-mark after Sri Lankan spin legend Muttiah Muralitharan, said that he watched a lot of old videos of great individ-

AFP BERLIN

restrictions.

Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang

winner as Arsenal qualified for the last 16 of the Europa League on Thursday with a 3-2 victo-

ry over Benfica in Greece, while Manchester United and

Rangers cruised through to the next round.

in their home leg of a tie relo-cated due to Covid-19 travel

Benfica a 2-1 lead on the night

error from Dani Ceballos on

equaliser and Aubameyang headed in the decisive goal

from Bukavo Saka's cross on 87

minutes, earning the Gunners

a 4-3 aggregate victory and saving them from an unusual away goals exit following a 1-

1 draw in the first leg in Rome. "Everyone is happy tonight.

This is what gives me power

every day, take errors from the

oast and transform to strength,

character and we deserved the

win. It was a hard game. What

we showed tonight will be an example for the future."

draw at home to Real

Sociedad, having effectively

clinched the tie last week with

an emphatic 4-0 win on neutral

United cemented their

"The team showed a lot of

Aubameyang told BT Sport.

Kieran Tierney rifled in an

Diogo Goncalves levelled

scored twice including a late

I am actually a cricket lover who went on to become a cricketer. I am living my dream here, I never imagined that I will wear the Indian jersey one day and I will play

ual performances in the lock-down helped improve his understanding of the game.
"I used to watch a lot of footage

even before, but the understanding of the game has gone one notch higher...During the lockdown, I was watching a lot of cricket from the past, especially Sachin's hundred in Chepauk, all sort of stuff on Youtube," recalled the 34-year-old

Chennai-born player.

Jofra Archer became Ashwin's 400th wicket during the second day of the third Test here, which India won by 10 wickets and he said it was only when the batsman had opted for DRS, he realised that he had reached the landmark

"Initial feeling is quite empty to be honest, because we were under immense pressure...For me I was actually in the moment, only after he (Archer) had taken the DRS, I realised the 400th that happened," he said.

...After they flashed 400 Test wickets on the board, the entire stadium was up, everybody was clapping, I don't know, I cannot put a finger and say how I feel about it, the last three months have been a complete fairy-tale," he added.

WOMEN'S CRICKET SEASON FROM MARCH 11 New Delhi: The women's domestic cricket season wil begin with a 50-over tourney from March 11, the BCCI has informed its affiliated units. The tourney will be held across six venues - Surat Baikot Jainur Indore Chennai and Bengaluru. The teams will have to assemble by March 4 and will need to have three Covid-19 negative before entering the respective bio-bubbles. Each of the five elite groups will have six teams each, while the plate group has seven. The quarter-finals will be held on March 29, and semi-finals on April 1. The final will be played on April 4.

#### CAS REDUCE UMAR AKMAL BAN TO 12 MONTHS

KARACHI: Pakistan batsman Umar Akmal will be able to resume his cricket career after the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS) reduced his suspension to 12 months him for breaching the Anti-Corruption Code. The CAS announced its decision in a consolidated order on the appeals filed by Umar and the PCB. Umar was initially suspended from all cricket activities on February 20 last year for not reporting approaches made to him for spot-fixing in the PSL. On Friday, the PCB said that Umar will now be eligible to reintegrate into competitive cricket subject to deposits of fine, which adds up to ₹19.62 lakh in Indian currency, and undergoing the program of rehabilitation under the PCB Anti-Corruption Code.

#### YUSUF PATHAN ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT New Delhi: Out-of-favour India all-rounder Yusuf

Pathan, who made a name for himself as a power-hitter, on Friday announced retirement from all forms of cricket, saying time has come "to put a full stop to this innings of my life." The 38-year-old Pathan was part of the inaugural T20 World Cup-winning Indian team in 2007 and also the one that triumphed in the 2011 ODI World Cup at home

#### Pietersen to captain england legends

MUMBAI: Former England batsman Kevin Pietersen will lead the England Legends while Khaled Mahmud will captain the Bangladesh Legends in the Unacademy Road Safety World Series, starting in Raipur from March 5. Former cricketers Matthew Hoggard, Owais Shah, Monty Panesar, Nick Crompton are some of the other key members in the England side. The Bangladesh Legends squad comprises players like Nafees Iqbal, Abdur Razzaq and Mohammed Rafique.

#### HENDERSON SIDELINED AFTER SURGERY

LIVERPOOL: Liverpool captain Jordan Henderson faces a long spell on the sidelines after undergoing an operation on the groin injury he sustained in last weekend's Merseyside derby loss against Everton. Liverpool has not put a timescale on the midfielder's recovery but said he will be out until at least April in

#### SWIATEK VS BENCIC IN ADELAIDE FINAL

ADELAIDE: Second seed Belinda Bencic battled for almost three hours before seeing off 16-year-old Coco Gauff in three sets on Friday to reach the final of the Adelaide International, Bencic set up a final showdown against French Open champion Iga Swiatek with her 7-6 (7/2), 6-7 (4/7), 6-2 win. Swiatek had a much easier ssage to the final, beating Jil Teichmann 6-3, 6-2.

#### DISCOVERY BECOMES HOME OF GIRO D'ITALIA

**New Delhi:** Discovery has secured the exclusive global rights to show the Giro d'Italia until at least 2025. The long-term deal means Discovery retains its status as the Giro's multi-platform rights holder, providing Live and uninterrupted coverage of every stage from the year's first Grand Tour. For the Indian audience, Giro d'Italia can be viewed on Eurosport as well as on discovery+ app from 8th — 30th May 2021. **AGENCIES** 

# Eng guilty of thinking too far ahead: Bell

 $F^{ormer\ batsman\ Ian\ Bell\ has}_{slammed\ England's\ much-debated\ rotation\ policy,\ saying}$ they were guilty of thinking too far ahead and have gone wrong with the constant chopping and changing in a "big" Test series like India.

England fell to an embar-rassing 10-wicket defeat in the third Test to go down 1-2 in the four-match series against India, while also getting knocked out of contention from the ICC World Test Championship



(WTC) final in June guilty of thinking too far ahead

of having a squad for the Ashes when actually this is bigger than the Ashes, this is probably as big as the Ashes," Bell told ESPNcricinfo.

er I get an opportunity I will

give my 100 per cent."

Asked by Pandya if he finds
Test cricket easy, Axar replied:

"Everybody asked me that question. When it goes your way then you think it's easy but

when you miss a full toss, you

Patel said he would aim to

actually realise how easy it is."

"Why are we rotating in the biggest Test series you are playing in? For me that's where England have gone a bit

wrong," he added.

The 38-year-old, who featured in 118 Tests for England, feels for the English players for whom the tours to India and Australia can make or break

"These tours, certainly for

Englishmen coming to India or going to Australia are the pin-nacle. They make your careers, you look back and if you win in those conditions they are remembered for a long long

"For me, India are going to come to England in the summer. If they are 2-0 or 1-0 up will they rotate? I know for a fact that when India come in the summer they won't be rotating their best bowlers or their best players or leave somebody out. They want to

## Padikkal scores another ton in Karnataka's win



PTI BENGALURU

ng opener Devdutt Padikkal contin-Y ued his sensational form, smashing a second successive century to lead defending champions Karnataka to a nine-wicket win over Kerala in the Vijay Hazare

phy here on Friday. Chasing Kerala's 278, Karnataka cantered home with 27 balls to spare with the Royal Challengers Bangalore opener hitting 13 fours and two sixes in an unbeaten knock of 126 from 138 balls.

He got a fine support from Krishnamurthy Siddharth (84-ball 86 not out; 5x4, 3x6) as they toyed with the Kerala

### Delhi to host Vijay Hazare knockout

Mumbai: The knockout matches of the ongoing Vijay Hazare Trophy will be held in Delhi from March 7.

organised at the Arun

Jailley Stadium and the Palam Ground.

"...Kindly note that the site, the pre-quarter final

21 will be played at New Delhi from March 7," stated a mail sent from the BCCI secretary's office to all the affiliated state units

(Eliminator) will be played on March 7, while the quarter-finals will be played on March 8 and knock-out stage of the Vijay Hazare Trophy 2020-March 9. The two semi-finals will be staged on March 11 while the summit clash

will be played on March

attack in their match-winning 180-run undefeated stand. Fresh from his 152 hundred and Sheth's big-hitting to post 332/6 after a top-order failure, and then against Odisha, Padikkal carried on from where he left and put on a 99-run opening stand with skipper Ravikumar Samarth The 20-year-old, who also has two half-

centuries, now leads the Vijay Hazare run chart with 427 runs from four matches at an astounding average of 142.33.

The big win took Karnataka to the top

of the Group E table ahead of Uttar Pradesh, who beat Railways by 70 runs in Alur and Kerala on net run-rate

#### FOUR FOR BARODA

In Group A game in Surat, skipper Krunal Pandya's unbeaten 133 formed the cornerstone of Baroda's 13-run win over Chhattisgarh in an Elite Group A game, even as Atit Sheth blazed away to a 16-ball

Opting to bat, Baroda rode on Pandya's

restricted the opposition to 319/9 to record their fourth win on the trot. The left-hander smashed 20 fours and three sixes in his whirlwind 100-ball knock while forging a 139-run stand for the fifth wicket with Vishnu Solanki (78 off 99 balls, 8x4).

#### IHARKHAND LOSE

In Group B matches in Indore, Tamil Nadu ended Jharkhand's three-match winning streak with a convincing 67-run win.

At Holkar Stadium, Prabhsimran Singh to power Punjab to a four-wicket win over Vidarbha. While Madhya Pradesh handed Andhra a 98-run defeat.

Jharkhand is on top of the standings with 12 points, followed by Punjab, Andhra, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh with eight points. Vidarbha lies in last place with 4

### BCCI considers 4-5 IPL venues

PTI NEW DELHI

 $\Gamma$  he BCCI is looking at four to five venues for conducting the next edition of the Indian Premier League with Mumbai as a single host not looking feasible anymore following a surge in Covid-19 cases in and around the city.

Earlier, there were discussions that Mumbai, with four stadiums - Wankhede. Brabourne, DY Patil and Reliance Stadium, will be a good option to create a single bio-secure bubble and hold the eight-week long tourna-

However, the Covid-19 situation in Maharashtra has worsened with a spike in cases. "There is still a month left



there is steady rise in cases that's happening right now," a senior BCCI official said.

Bengaluru, and Kolkata will be ready to host matches. Ahmedabad, in all likelihood, will host the play-off and final match of the IPL," he said.



Arsenal, Man Utd, Rangers in last 16

Leicester, Napoli, Germans exit Europa League after shock defeats in R32

out after sliding to a 2-0 loss at home to Czech champions

Lukas Provod fired Slavia in front just after half-time following a goalless draw in the first leg, and Senegalese teenag-er Abdallah Sima ensured the visitors extended their run in

#### **'OUTSTANDING' RANGERS** Steven Gerrard's Rangers

progressed following their 5-2 win over Belgian side Antwerp at Ibrox, with five different players on target for the cottish league leaders. After a dramatic 4-3 win in

the first leg last week, goals from Alfredo Morelos, Nathan Patterson and Ryan Kent put Rangers in control before late penalties from Borna Barisic and Cedric Itten wrapped up

the tie 9-5 on aggregate.
"I'm very satisfied, the performance was outstanding in a lot of areas," said Gerrard. AC Milan squeezed past Red Star Belgrade on away

goals after a 1-1 draw in a clash of former European champions at the San Siro. Franck Kessie's early penal-

ty was enough to book Milan's lace in the last 16 despite El Fardou Ben Nabouhane equalising as the tie finished 3-3 over Milan meanwhile have

goal difference, were knocked ued as they were knocked out 3-2 on aggregate by Granada despite winning 2-1 in the

> Ajax eliminated French Ligue 1 leaders Lille with a 2-1 victory in Amsterdam to complete a 4-2 overall win

Donetsk completed a 3-0 aggregate victory over Maccabi Tel-Aviv, while Norwegians dumped Hoffenheim 5-3 on aggregate following a 2-0 win in

Germany.
Dinamo Zagreb and Dynamo Kiev complete the line-up for the last 16, with Tottenham Hotspur also in the mix after destroying Wolfsberg of Austria by an aggregate

while Gerard Moreno netted

both goals as Villarreal dumped

out Salzburg 4-1 on aggregate. Egyptian forward Ahmed

Hassan's 88th-minute strike in

Eindhoven sent Olymiapkos through at the expense of PSV

5-4 on aggregate, while Roma and Young Boys brushed aside

Braga and Bayer Leverkusen

Former winners Shakhtar

### **Red Devils face AC Milan in last 16**

**AFP** ■ NYON

Manchester United and AC Milan will face off in the last 16 of the Europa League after being paired together in

Friday's draw in Nyon. United, who beat Real Sociedad 4-0 in the previous round will face the seventime European champions in a two-legged encounter after they squeezed past Red Star

Belgrade on away goals.

The tie will pit Zlatan Ibrahimovic against his former club in United, where he won the 2017 edition of the Europa

League.
United will be considered favourites for the tie however as they sit second in the Premier League having lost just once in the English top flight since the start of November.

surrendered top spot in Serie A to neighbours Inter Milan after a run of three defeats in five league matches.

Ajax will fancy their

chances against Switzerland's Young Boys after the fourtime European champions eliminated Ligue 1 leaders Lille on Thursday.
Granada were rewarded

for making the last 16 in their first ever European campaign with a tie against Norway's Molde, while Roma coach Paulo Fonseca will be reunited with his old team Shakhtar Donetsk. United's fellow Premier

League teams Tottenham Hotspur and Arsenal will face Dinamo Zagreb and Olympiakos respectively. Rangers take on Slavia Prague after dumping out Royal Antwerp 9-5 on aggregate



New Delhi: Asian Silver-winner Deepak Kumar (52kg) on Friday stunned Olympic and world champion Shakhobiddin Zoirov of Uzbekistan to storm into the finals of the 72nd Strandia Memorial Boxing Tournament in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Deepak clinched one of the most memorable wins of his career with a 4-1 win over more

the 2019 world championship title beating India's Amit Panghal. Zoirov is also a Silver-medallist from the Asian Games and the championships. However, former youth

world champion Jyoti Gulia (51kg) and Bhagyabati Kachari (75kg) bowed out of the women's competition

for the IPL to start but obviously some decisions need to be



"So cities like Hyderabad

The IPL is scheduled to start in the second week of

ground in Italy. Mikel Oyarzabal's awful

> Leicester City, who are behind second-placed United in the Premier League only on

penalty miss represented the best chance at Old Trafford for La Real, while Bruno Fernandes rattled the crossbar and Axel Tuanzebe's header was disallowed for a foul.

the two legs. Napoli's dismal run contin-