

OPINION 6
TRAGI-COMEDY
IN THE CAPITAL

WORLD 8
MARTIAL LAW DECLARED
IN PARTS OF MYANMAR

SPORT 12
PAK WHITEWASH
SOUTH AFRICA

Published From
DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR
RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH
DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA

*Late City Vol. 31 Issue 39
*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

NEW DELHI, TUESDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2021; PAGES 12 ₹3



the pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com



STAYING
RELEVANT IS
VITAL: SHAMITA
11 VIVACITY

Modi reaches out to farmers

PM urges kisan to end protest and invites them for talks to sort out their problems, assures MSP will remain in place, slams Congress for taking U-turn on farm reforms

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Reaching out to the protesting farmers, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday assured them Minimum Support Price (MSP) will remain in place and reiterated the Government's willingness to hold talks.

Urging them to end their ongoing agitation, he also questioned the Opposition, especially the Congress, for taking a "U-turn" on farm reforms. Making these assertions in the Rajya Sabha, Modi also referred to former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's backing to reforms in agriculture sector.

Explaining his Government's stance on the farm laws while replying to a discussion on the President's address, the Prime Minister also expressed concern over foreign elements trying to foment trouble.

He said a new phenomenon has emerged over the past few years wherein "Foreign Destructive Ideology" was evident in the country. He quipped this was the new kind of FDI in obvious reference to singer Rihanna, activist Greta Thunberg and lawyer-author Meena Harris, niece of US Vice President Kamala Harris, backing the farmers' stir.

"The nation is making progress and we are talking about FDI but I see that a new FDI has come to the fore. We have to protect the nation from this new FDI. We need Foreign Direct Investment but the new FDI is 'Foreign Destructive Ideology', we have to protect ourselves from it," the Prime Minister said.

He also criticised a section of people seen in every agitation in the country and said, "In the last few years, we have

witnessed a new category of protesters, "Andolan Jeevi", who one can witness in every agitation. We need to protect this country from these Andolan Jeevi, who are actually "par-jeevi". They don't have their own strength, but they join all agitations.

Observing that the farmers' agitation figured prominently during the 15-hour discussion on the President's address, Modi said the Opposition, however, did not mention about the basic facts of the laws and roots of the problem.

Urging the farmers to end their protest, he said, "We will all sit together and talk. We are ready for talks and I am inviting you again for dialogue from this House."

In an effort to allay the apprehension of the farmers about the MSP, Modi said "MSP tha, MSP hai aur MSP rahega. No one should spread misinformation."

Highlighting the need for new farm laws to improve the income and living standard of the farmers, the Prime Minister said he was willing to take the brunt if it meant pushing reforms that were long overdue.

He said, "We need to move forwards, not backwards. We need to give these reforms a chance."

Stressing the fact that the number of marginal farmers had increased over the years and the country had a responsibility to better their lot, Modi said every Government had spoken in favour of reforms in the agriculture sector. However, they have now taken a "U-turn", said Modi, apparently referring to the Congress and Sharad Pawar, who was Agriculture Minister during the Congress-led UPA rule.

Continued on Page 2

Farmer leaders accept PM's dialogue invite, ask for date

SHEKHAR SINGH/PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Soon after Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged agitating farmers to end their stir and resume the dialogue, farmers' unions on Monday asked the Government to fix a date for the next round of talks.

Farmer leader Shiv Kumar Kakka, who is a senior member of the Samyukta Kisan Morcha which is spearheading the ongoing stir, said they are ready for the next round of

talks and the Government should tell them the date and time of the meeting.

"We have never refused to hold talks with the government. Whenever it has called us for dialogue, we held discussions with Union ministers. We are ready for talks with them (government)," Kakka told PTI.

To Modi's address in the Rajya Sabha during which he assured minimum support price (MSP), Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) leader Rakesh Tikait said there is no law on

MSP and the Government should repeal these farm laws.

The farmers leaders sitting across the borders of the city also objected to Modi's remarks that a new "breed" of agitators called "andolan jivi" has emerged in the country, and said agitation has an important role in a democracy.

Talking to media person on Monday, Tikait said business over hunger will not be allowed in the country and the laws should be repealed.

Continued on Page 2



Farmers during the ongoing protest against the new farm laws at Ghazipur Border in New Delhi on Monday

26 dead, 197 still missing in Chamoli



Rescue operations underway at Tapovan Tunnel, after a glacier broke off in Joshimath causing a massive flood in the Dhaultaganga river in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand on Monday

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

A day after disaster struck at Reni near Joshimath in Chamoli district, the authorities have been able to recover 26 bodies while at least 197 people were reported missing till Monday evening. Of the bodies recovered, only two could be identified till the evening.

According to the status report of the State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC), the 197 missing people include 12 people of Reni and three other villages, along with 185 workers of the companies involved in the two hydropower projects damaged in the disaster.

Further, between 25 and 35

persons — included in the missing persons' list — are stuck in a tunnel with efforts underway to reach them clearing the debris in the tunnel. While six persons are injured, 12 persons were rescued safely from the NTPC project downstream.

Personnel of the NDRF, SDRF, ITBP, SSB and armed forces along with State police are undertaking rescue and relief works.

Meanwhile, apart from Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat, Union Power Minister RK Singh, Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', Garhwal MP Tirath Singh Rawat and State Minister Dhan Singh Rawat visited the Tapovan and other affected

areas where they viewed the efforts underway and interacted with the locals.

Even as rescue operations continued throughout the day, ration, medical supplies and other daily use items were supplied by helicopter to the 13 villages in the Niti valley which have lost road link due to the disaster.

Chamoli District Magistrate Swati Bhadauria informed that supplies will be provided by helicopters in these villages till an alternative arrangement is made.

In addition to the disaster affected area, the district administration team is also searching for the missing persons along the banks of the Alaknanda river.

Maha probes celebrities' pro-Modi Govt tweets

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh ordered a probe into whether the BJP pressured celebrities, including Bharat Ratna awardees Lata Mangeshkar, Sachin Tendulkar and actor Akshay Kumar into putting out tweets in response to the global criticism of the Government's handling of the farmers' ongoing agitation.

Responding to a demand by Maharashtra Congress spokesperson Sachin Sawant and other leaders who urged him to look into the tweets put out by the celebrities, Deshmukh said, "Looking at a host of tweets put out by the celebrities (in response to the global criticism of the Government's handling of the farmers' ongoing agitation), the questions that arise about the timing of the tweets and whether pressure was brought



to bear on these celebrities to put out near similar tweets. For instance, the tweets put out by Akshay Kumar and Saina Nehwal are identical."

"The media is already under tremendous pressure from the Government. If political leaders criticise the BJP, the Government lets loose the ED and CBI on them... We will enquire into the issue raised by you. Our intelligence agencies will enquire into whether the BJP put pressure on the celebrities to identical or near identi-

cal tweets put by the celebrities at the same time," Deshmukh said.

Deshmukh, who has quarantined himself after testing positive for Covid-19, held a zoom meeting with Sawant and other Congress leaders.

The Minister said that the State Government will also look into the role of a Mumbai BJP office-bearer who had been tagged by actor Suniel Shetty in his tweet.

Continued on Page 2

Remove 1,178 anti-India handles: Govt to Twitter

These propaganda handles are managed by Pakistani and Khalistani users

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre has asked social media platform Twitter to remove 1,178 anti-India propaganda handles managed by Pakistan and Khalistani users. The list was sent to Twitter on February 4.

Twitter has not complied with the January 31 directive of the Indian Government to block 257 tweets and accounts for tweeting inflammatory pro-farmers messages.

The Information and Technology Ministry issued the fresh directive after the Ministry of Home furnished inputs about anti-India propaganda unleashed by these accounts. According to sources, Twitter responded to the Government that the company is respecting local laws even



while "protecting its foundational principle of free expression."

"Many of these accounts were also automated bots that were used for sharing and amplifying misinformation and provocative contents on farmers' protests," said an official.

According to officials, Twitter has to comply with the

orders of the Government of India and if there is any resistance to the order, the social media company would face charges of flouting various laws.

"Twitter's stand on freedom of expression is an excuse. They are just a platform and must obey the laws and if they violate they will face prosecu-

tion," said officials.

At a time when the microblogging site is surrounded by controversy and has received a notice from the Government for "violating Indian law" by not taking down tweets related to "farmers genocide", Twitter India's public policy head Mahima Kaul has resigned from her post citing personal reasons. Kaul had submitted her resignation in the first week of January and will be continuing at the firm till March. Twitter has also listed the job opening on its website.

"At the start of this year, Mahima decided to step down from her role as Twitter Public Policy Director for India and South Asia to take a well-deserved break. It's a loss for all of us at Twitter, but after more than five years in the role we respect her desire to focus on the most important people and relationships in her personal life. Mahima will continue in her role till the end of March and will support the transition," Twitter global policy head Monique Meche said.

U'khand avalanche: Many theories, no certain reason!

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

There is no clarity so far on the reasons for the glacier burst and the resultant avalanche and flash floods that wreaked havoc in the upper reaches of the Himalayas in Uttarakhand on Sunday, but experts have zeroed in global warming or Western disturbance as the possible causes for the melting of the snow and breaking of the glacier that could have triggered the inundation in Chamoli district.

The Snow and Avalanche Study Establishment (SASE) of the Defence Research and Development Organisation is investigating the tragedy, but there are no clear answers yet for a glacier to have melted in



the winter.

It is not clear whether the flood is a typical Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) or some temporary damming due to a landslide and avalanche that might have blocked the mainstream to form a tempo-

rary lake which burst, said Ranjit Rath, Director General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI).

A GLOF is a type of outburst flood that occurs when the dam containing a glacial lake fails.

"Once the water level recedes a team of experts will assess the damage as well as the triggering factor responsible for the outburst," Rath told reporters here.

As the nightmare envisaged by numerous environmentalists warning against untrammelled development in the mountains came true on Sunday, glaciologist Farooq Azam said a glacial burst is very rare.

"We have been trying to understand the event since yesterday. Right now what we can tell is a glacier slipped from around 500-600 metres, which started a landslide with an icefall that triggered this disaster," Azam, Assistant Professor, Glaciology & Hydrology,

Indian Institute of Technology, Indore, told a news agency.

"For sure there was no glacial lake outburst flood, for sure there is no cloud burst because there is no lake available in the region at this particular time. Even if there are lakes, they are frozen and they don't have any activity. The disaster happened because of an icefall and landslide," he added. Satellite and Google Earth images, Azam added, do not show a glacial lake near the region, but there's a possibility there may be a water pocket in the region.

"Water pockets are lakes inside the glaciers, which may have erupted leading to this event," he said. He suggested further analysis of weather

reports and data to confirm if this indeed was the case. Climate scientist Roxy Mathew Koll agreed and also said more data are needed. He said the recent climate change assessment report for India shows significant melting and decline in glacier mass over the Himalayan region in the recent decades due to warmer temperatures.

Koll also said it was not clear if an accumulation of glacier melt led to this burst, and noted that Western disturbances during last week did bring in a lot of snow over the region, followed by clear sky and warm temperatures.

"It is quite possible that climate change and melting of fresh snow led to piling up of

water in this area," Koll, scientist at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) in Pune said.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)'s Special Report on Oceans and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate (SROCC) also shows that climate change has altered the frequency and magnitude of natural hazards. "The scientists reported with medium confidence that in some regions snow avalanches involving wet snow have increased while the rain on snow floods have also increased at lower elevations in springs," Prakash, lead author of the ongoing 6th Assessment report of IPCC, said in a statement.

Continued on Page 2

CAPSULE

'PURVANCHAL E-WAY WILL BE COMPLETED BY MARCH'
Ghaziipur/Azamgarh (UP): Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath Monday said the construction of six-lane Purvanchal Expressway will be completed by March, and it will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in April.

HINDU SITES IN PAK IN STATE OF DECAY: REPORT
Islamabad: Most of the revered sites of the minority Hindu community in Pakistan are in a poor condition and the authority responsible for their upkeep has failed to maintain them, leaving the ancient worship places in a state of decay, according to a recent report by a Supreme Court-appointed commission.

HC NIXES OWNERSHIP PLEA ON MOSQUE LAND
Lucknow: The Allahabad High Court on Monday dismissed as withdrawn a writ petition filed against the allotment of land in Ayodhya's Dhannipur village for the construction of a mosque, following the Supreme Court verdict in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid dispute.

ANTI-COW SLAUGHTER BILL PASSED IN K'TAKA
Bengaluru: The anti-cow slaughter Bill was passed in the Karnataka Legislative Council by a voice-vote on Monday amid protest by the Congress party and JD(S).

6,126 MORE BIRDS DIE IN MAHARASHTRA



Mumbai: Maharashtra has reported the death of 6,126 more birds, most of them hens, and their samples are being sent for avian influenza testing, the State Government said on Monday.

Ensure democracy's norms maintained: US Caucus to India

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

A powerful India Caucus in the US Congress has urged the Indian Government to ensure that the norms of democracy are maintained and protesters allowed to demonstrate peacefully and have access to the Internet as it held a meeting with New Delhi's envoy here.

India's Ambassador to the US Taranjit Singh Sandhu, who regularly interacts with India Caucus members on a number of issues, had a virtual meeting with the top leadership of the Congressional India Caucus last week.

The members included congressmen Brad Sherman and Steve Chabot who are the two Co-Chairs of the

Congressional India Caucus along with Indian-American Congressman Ro Khanna, who is the Vice Chair of the Caucus.

"During this discussion, the caucus leadership welcomed reforms in the Indian economy including in agriculture," sources told PTI.

During the meeting, the leadership of the India Caucus, which is the largest country-specific caucus in the House of Representatives, condemned the violence on January 26 in Delhi. Among other things "they were appreciative of the government's perspective on the farm reforms," according to those familiar with the meeting.

Sherman tweeted that they urged India to ensure that the norms of democracy are main-

tained and the protesters allowed to demonstrate peacefully and have access to the Internet.

"I urged the Indian government to make sure that the norms of democracy are maintained and that protesters are allowed to protest peacefully and to have access to the Internet, and to journalists. All friends of India hope that the parties can reach an agreement," Sherman said.

The Indian ambassador, who over the last one year has met over 100 American lawmakers, mostly virtually due to the Covid-19 restrictions, briefed lawmakers on the necessity and objectives of the agriculture laws, negotiations as well as sensitive handling of the agitation.

Additional force withdrawn from Delhi borders

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

New Delhi: Police withdrew on Monday its additional force who were deployed across the borders in Delhi during the farmers' tractor parade.

According to an order issued by Special Commissioner of Police (Operation and Licensing) Muktesh Chander, as desired by the police commissioner, the entire staff will go back to their respective districts or units with effect from Tuesday.

All districts where the additional force is deployed are directed to relieve the force by 6 pm on Monday with the direction to report to their respective district or unit for further duties, it said. The districts may mobilise additional force from their own resources to augment police arrangements, it added.

Most of revered Hindu sites in Pak in state of decay: Report

Most of the revered sites of the minority Hindu community in Pakistan are in a poor condition and the authority responsible for their upkeep has failed to maintain them, leaving the ancient worship places in a state of decay, according to a recent report by a Supreme Court-appointed commission.

The report, prepared by a one-man commission, was submitted to the Supreme Court on February 5 and presents a dismal picture of the community's most revered sites in the country, the Dawn newspaper reported on Monday.

The report also highlights that the Evacuee Trust Property Board (ETPB), responsible for their upkeep, has failed to maintain most of the ancient and holy sites of the minority

Allahabad HC dismisses plea claiming ownership of land offered for Ayodhya mosque

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

The Allahabad High Court on Monday dismissed as withdrawn a writ petition filed against the allotment of land in Ayodhya's Dhannipur village for the construction of a mosque, following the Supreme Court verdict in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid dispute.

The court, however, granted liberty to the petitioners to move a fresh petition with appropriate pleadings.

Two Delhi-based sisters had moved the Lucknow Bench of the court on February 3, claiming ownership of the five-acre land allotted to the Uttar

Pradesh Sunni Central Waqf Board for the construction of the mosque.

Appearing for the state, Additional Advocate General Ramesh Kumar Singh had opposed the plea, saying the plot numbers allotted for the mosque were different from those mentioned in the petition.

He also said the petition was filed without ascertaining facts in such an important issue and as such it is liable to be dismissed forthwith.

Justices DK Upadhyay and Manish Kumar expressed concerns over the filing of the petition in a cursory manner without ascertaining facts.

Nepal-India border dispute should be resolved through serious diplomatic efforts: Oli

Kathmandu: Nepal's Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli has said that the border issue with India should be resolved through serious diplomatic efforts and political dialogue on the basis of facts and evidence, equality, dignity and justice, instead of bowing down to undue influence and pressure.

Addressing a seminar on 'Coordination among Security Agencies in the International Border Security and Management of Nepal' here on Sunday, Prime Minister Oli said Nepal will hold open and friendly dialogue with India on Limpiyadhura, Lipulekh and Kalapani based on facts and documented evidence.

"We need to consolidate and improve our relations with the neighbouring countries on the basis of facts and evidence, equality, dignity and justice, instead of bowing down to undue influence and pressure," said 68-year-old Oli, who had triggered a border row last year after his government came out with a new political map that showed the three Indian territories as part of Nepal.

It was important for Nepal to establish a cordial relations with the southern neighbour and expand friendship, for which "we must have printed the new map, hold dialogue with India and to return our land through dialogue," only through which our relations will improve, he said, adding there are border issues with India in Susta and Kanchanpur too.

"We need to get back our land, we should make any move on the basis of facts and evidence and we will claim our land on that basis... We need to settle the unresolved land issue left on us by history," he added.

Ties between India and Nepal came under severe strain after Nepal last year published the new political map that showed three Indian territories — Limpiyadhura, Kalapani and Lipulekh — as part of Nepal. After Nepal released the map, India reacted sharply, calling it a "unilateral act" and cautioning Kathmandu that such "artificial enlargement" of territorial claims will not be acceptable to it.

U'khand avalanche...

From Page 1

"The vulnerabilities are exacerbated by climate change with risks of glacial lake outbursts," Pema Gyamtsho, Director General of the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), the Kathmandu-based inter-governmental knowledge centre, said on Monday.

"Across the globe, so many people have seen visuals of or heard about the flooding event. The visuals are frightening and heartbreaking. This is once again a grave reminder about how our shared mountain region is fragile and vulnerable to a multitude of geological and natural processes. And it is a grave reminder that vulnerabilities are exacerbated by climate change," Gyamtsho said in a statement.

"Those glaciers provide important water storage, but when warming across the globe is accelerated, there are changes in water flows and risks of glacial lake outburst events," Gyamtsho said.

He added that this is an important moment for the Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) countries to pause and reconsider development in the mountains given the emerging risks posed by climate change.

"While we need infrastructure and other projects to ensure the lives and livelihoods of mountain communities, we also need to look at ways of development that consider the fragility of these areas, recognise the inherent risks, and the implications of cascading effects on downstream areas."

"It is with this understanding and sense of urgency that, together with our member Governments, we have issued an HKH Call to Action, outlining concrete actions at the local, national and regional levels to address issues critical to our HKH mountains," he added.

Maha probes celebrities' pro-Modi...

From Page 1

Among other things, Deshmukh slammed the BJP for its efforts to defame the farmers who had been agitating peacefully for the past 70 days and the manner in which violence was unleashed in the national Capital on January 26.

"The manner in which the Government is trying to sabotage the farmers' agitation has evoked negative reactions not just in the country but also internationally. After international pop star Rihanna and others reacted to the developments in India, our celebrities from various fields like Lata didi, Sachin Tendulkar have raised objections to the tweets by the people like Rihanna and others. But the timing and identical content of tweets put out by our celebrities have thrown up a question whether celebrities put out the tweets under some pressure," Deshmukh said.

Sawant, who made a presentation before Deshmukh on the issue at the Zoom meeting, said: "Anyone can comment on any issues. But, in this

case, we see a similar content and the same timing. From this, it appears as if a script was given to the celebrities concerned. The whole thing needs to be investigated to check if the BJP was behind the whole thing."

Akshay Kumar and Saina Nehwal tweeted the exact same thing and actor Suniel Shetty tagged a BJP leader. While everyone has a right to express themselves, we want the Government to probe whether these people were pressured by the Government into putting out tweets of a similar nature and at the same times," Sawant said.

The twitter war broke out between international celebrities and their Indian counterparts after pop star Rihanna, environmental activist Greta Thunberg and adult star Mia Khalifa put out posts last week in support of the farmers' agitation. In retaliation, Indian celebrities - including Bollywood actors and sports persons - took twitter in a big way and posted counter-tweets.

Incidentally, many of the celebrities used similar hashtags like #IndiaTogether, #IndiaAgainstPropaganda etc to contradict the tweets posted by Rihanna and others in support of the agitating farmers. It may be recalled that on February 3, Tendulkar put out tweets with hashtags #IndiaTogether, #IndiaAgainstPropaganda: "External forces can be speculators but not participants. Indians know India and should decide for India. Let's remain united as a nation."

The same day, Mangeshkar also tweeted with the same two hashtags: "Namaskar. India is a glorious nation and we all Indians stand with our heads held high.

As a proud Indian, I have full faith that any issues or problems that as a country we face; we are fully equipped to resolve them amicably, keeping the interest of our people in mind. Jai Hind."

Coincidentally, Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar and sports star Saina Nehwal had posted identical tweets on

February 3 which read thus: "Farmers constitute an extremely important part of our country. And the efforts being undertaken to resolve their issues are evident. Let's support an amicable resolution, rather than paying attention to anyone creating differences."

Alluding to the similarity in tweets and the timing of the tweets, Sawant said: "Akshay Kumar and Saina Nehwal posted a same word-to-word identical tweet. Suniel Shetty tagged a BJP leader as well and this completely exposed the role of the BJP. We suspect that the BJP is behind the whole thing. The party has a role in the BCCI as well and hence probably some cricketers also tweeted on the said directions," Sawant said.

Sawant said if these personalities are under pressure from the BJP then they need to be given protection by the State.

On his part, NCP president Sharad Pawar had asked Tendulkar to exercise 'caution' while commenting on fields

other than cricket.

In a related development, Maharashtra's former Chief Minister and senior BJP leader Devendra Fadnis hit out at the Maha Vikas Aghadi Government for ordering investigations into the tweets by celebrities: "Disgusting & highly deplorable. Where is your Marathi Pride now? Where is your Maharashtra Dharma? We will never find such 'ratnas' (gems) in the entire nation who order probes against Bharat Ratnas who always stand strong in one voice for our nation," Fadnis tweeted.

However, Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) president Raj Thackeray expressed his displeasure over the manner in which the Government had exposed legends like Lata and Sachin to vicious social media trolling by involving them unnecessarily in its efforts to counter international celebrities. He said the Government should have involved personalities like Akshay Kumar and not the icons.

United Textiles Limited
Regd. Office 7th K.M. Stone,
Barwala Road, Hisar - 125001
(Haryana)
CIN: L17115HR1993PLC032092
Notice

Pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations & Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, Notice is hereby given that the Meeting of Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on Saturday, 13th February, 2021 at 11.00 AM at the Regd. Office of the Company to consider the Unaudited Quarterly Results for the Period Ended 31st December, 2020.

Further as per the Company's Code of Conduct for Prevention of Insider Trading, the trading window for dealing with securities of the Company will remain close from 31.12.2020 to 48 hours after the declaration of the Financial Results. The said information is also available on the Company's Website www.unitedtextileslimited.com & also on the website of stock exchanges at www.bseindia.com.

For United Textiles Limited
(Amit Kumar Aggarwal)
Director
Dated 27.01.2021 (DIN 07079171)

125 new Covid cases in Delhi, positivity rate 0.23%

New Delhi: Delhi recorded 125 new coronavirus cases, while the death toll rose to 10,882 on Monday with two new deaths, the government said. The active cases dropped to 1,096 from 1,112 the previous day and 6.24 lakh patients have recovered, the Health Department said. These new 125 cases came out of the 55,390 tests conducted the previous day, as the positivity rate stood at 0.23 per cent.

Modi reaches out to farmers

From Page 1

"It's fine that you (Opposition) are attacking the Government on the protests but you should have also told the farmers that change is necessary for development." He quoted Manmohan Singh, commenting that "at least they (Opposition) will listen to him if not me" on reforms.

"Manmohan ji is here, I will read his quote. "There are other rigidities because of marketing regime set up in the 1930s which prevent our farmers from selling their produce where they get the highest rate of return. It is our intention to remove all those handicaps which come in the way of India realising its vast potential as one large common market," the Prime Minister quoted Manmohan Singh as saying.

Modi added, "Manmohan Singh ji had made his intentions clear, to give farmers the

Farmer leaders accept PM's dialogue invite...

From Page 1

"The way rates of a flight ticket fluctuate three to four times a day, the price of crops will not be decided the same way. The farmers are a community which has emerged and people are also supporting the farmers. The farmers protesting against the new laws have already highlighted is that there is no law on MSP, because of which traders loot them by buying crops at lower prices," said Tikait.

"This movement was first portrayed as Punjab's issue, then Sikhs' then Jats, so on and so forth. The farmers of the country are united. There is no small farmer or big farmer. The movement belongs to all farmers," said Tikait.

Sukhdev Singh, Punjab general secretary of BKU Ekta Ugrahan, sought to know why the government is not ensuring a legal guarantee on MSP for crops and alleged that it is trying to divert the issue. Farmer leader Baldev Singh also said that government should repeal these farm laws and provide a legal guarantee on MSP for farmers' crops.

To press their demands, protesting unions held a nationwide "chakka jam" last week, during which national and state highways were blocked in Punjab, Haryana and other parts of the country.

Eleven rounds of talks have been held over the contentious

farm laws but the impasse continues as the farmer unions remain firm on their demands -- the repeal of the three laws and legal guarantee for MSP.

In the last round of talks, the Government had offered to suspend the laws for 12-18 months, but the farmer unions rejected it.

Thousands of agitating farmers, mostly from Punjab, Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh, have been camping at three Delhi border points --- Singhu, Tikri and Ghazipur --- for over 70 days.

However, on Monday, the Delhi Police Commissioner, S N Shrivastava, called back its additional force to their original postings, who were deployed across the National Capital's borders during the Kisan tractor rally.

In an order issued by Dr Mukesh Chander, the Special Commissioner of Police, Operations and Licensing, it was stated that as per desired by the Delhi Commissioner of Police, the additional forces deployed to maintain law and order during kisan rally will go back to their districts and units with effect from February 9.

"All concerned districts where the additional force is deployed are directed to relieve the force by 6 PM on Monday to their respective district and unit for further duties," stated the letter.

BSES Yamuna Power Limited, New Delhi
... A joint venture with Govt. of NCT of Delhi

TENDER NOTICE Date: 09.02.2021

Sealed tenders under two Bid System (Unpriced & Priced) are invited for following jobs from all bidders

NIT No.	Brief Item Description	Estimated Cost (₹)	Cost of EMD (₹)	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Opening
CMC/BY/20-21/RB/KD/43	RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF PACKAGED DRINKING WATER IN VARIOUS OFFICES OF BYPL	₹ 93.39 Lakhs	₹ 1.87 Lakhs	01.03.2021 UPTO 03:00 PM	02.03.2021 AT 3:30 PM

Cost of each Tender Documents: ₹1180/-
For details in respect of qualifying requirements, Terms & Conditions, Purchase and Services /Submission of tender documents/Corrigendum(if any) etc. please visit our website www.bsesdelhi.com -> BSES YAMUNA POWER LTD-> Tenders-> open tenders. Head (Contracts & Materials)

Regd. Off: BSES Yamuna Power Ltd, Shakti Kiran Building, Karkardooma, Delhi-110032 | CIN: U40109DL2001PLC111525
TEL: 011-41247777 | Fax: 011-4124 7787 | Website: www.bsesdelhi.com

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, SUNDARGARH

O-1038 AT/PO-SANKARA, SUNDARGARH-770020, E-mail address-serv_sundargarh@yahoo.com

No. Tender Online - RWSENG-10 of 2020-21 Letter No. 520 /Dtd.02.02.2021

e-Procurement NOTICE

- Type of the Work: Road Work
- Class of Contractor: As specified in the column-6 of the Annexure
- Time of Completion: As specified in the column-5 of the Annexure
- Detail Projects: As per Annexure attached
- Estimated Cost: As specified in the column-4 of the Annexure
- Other details:

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding		Last Date & Time of Seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh	RWSENG-10 of 2020-21	09.02.2021 11:00 AM	02.03.2021 3:00 PM	01.03.2021 3:00 PM	04.03.2021 11:00 AM	Will be intimated separately

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

OIPR-25133/11/0015/2021 Superintending Engineer Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, SAMBALPUR.

O-1049 Letter No.225 /Dt. 4th February '2021

IDENTIFICATION NO. SE-SBP-NCB-12(RRNMU)/2020-21 DT.04.02.2021

- Name of the work: Procurement of Supply, Delivery and installation of Equipment for RRNMU in the State of Odisha.
- Total no of lots: 8 Lots
- Class of Bidder: "D" Class and above for each lot
- Period of completion: 03 Calendar months
- Other Details:

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	No of lots	Availability of tender online for bidding	
			From	To
Superintending Engineer, Rural, Works Circle, Sambalpur	SE-SBP-NCB-12(RRNMU)/2020-21 DT.04.02.2021	8 lots	10.02.2021 11.00 hrs	23.02.2021 16.00 hrs

Other details can be seen in the bidding documents which is available in Website www.pmsgytenders.gov.in

OIPR-25091/11/0015/2021 Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur.

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mr. Avtar Singh, Mr. Onkar Singh & Mr. Naresh Kumar are joint owners of Property: Flat No. 154-D, Third Floor, Pocket-C, Sishahr Extn, New Delhi by virtue of Requisitionment deed dated 25.11.2020, Registration No. 3790, executed by Mrs. Vidya Devi, have lost misplaced SMC certificate stating legal heirs of late. Mr. Giridhar Lal Bhardwaj, All persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the said missing document. If anyone has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 10 days of the present.

Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants)
200, Ind Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Moti Nagar, N. Delhi-15
Ph. 9114119207-28 sunamsecocatesadvocates@gmail.com

राष्ट्रीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान दिल्ली
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY DELHI
(An autonomous Institute under the aegis of Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)

ADVERTISEMENT NO: 02/2021

Online-Applications forms are invited for Guest Faculty Positions recruitment in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering. For further details please visit the Institute website www.nitdelhi.ac.in. The last date for on-line submission of application form is 18th February, 2021 up to 5:30 pm only.

Registrar

CENTRAL ORGANISATION FOR RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION
(Office of the Principal Chief Materials Manager)
1, Nawab Yusuf Road, Civil Lines, Prayagraj-211001 Fax No.: 0532-2407797

No. 03195007 CORRIGENDUM-1 Dated: 08.02.2021
Corrigendum to E-Tender Notice No. 03195007 due to be opened on 09.02.2021 for supply of Copper Control wire 107 Sq.mm. The following conditions are incorporated in the tender and uploaded on IREPS website.

S.No.	Condition type	From	To
1.	Nit Header	Tender Opening date 09.02.2021	Tender Opening date 24.02.2021

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.
No. PR/672/2021 R.D. Adv PCMM CORE/Prayagraj

"Serving Customers with a Smile"

Delhi Co-op Housing loan interest cut

Rate of interest on housing loans for Delhiites reduced from 7.45% to 6.75%

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Cooperative Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam on Monday directed Delhi Cooperative Housing Finance Corporation Limited to reduce the interest rates as compared to private banks so that the common people can avail loans at cheaper rates to buy a house. Gautam said that the Delhi Government under CM Arvind Kejriwal has given a big relief to Delhi residents by reducing loan interest rates after circle rates. Now for loans of ₹1 lakh you will have to pay ₹760 instead of the earlier rate of ₹803.

The Minister on Monday said that Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has taken a historic decision to reduce the circle rate of residential, commercial and industrial properties to 20 per cent. With the reduction in circle rates, the common people will be able to



realize the dream of buying a house for his family, he said.

Rajesh Goyal, Chairman of Delhi Cooperative Housing Finance Corporation Limited, said "With the decision of the Government of Delhi, the rate of interest for Delhiites for taking housing loan has been reduced from 7.45 per cent to 6.75 per cent. These rates are much lower than private banks.

This will provide relief to Delhiites in installments every month. While the relief in installments will reduce the pressure on the borrowers, they will be able to bring other happiness to their family by saving."

Goyal also said that the decision to reduce circle rates by 20 per cent will enable more and more people to buy real estate and the stability in

GOOD NEWS FOR HOMEBUYERS

- The reduction in interest rate will bring down the loan payment instalment from ₹803 per lakh to ₹760 per lakh
- The move comes days after the Delhi Govt reduced circle rates on properties by 20 per cent
- Delhi Cooperative Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam, said "Delhi Government under Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has given a big relief to Delhiites by reducing loan interest rates after circle rates."
- These rates are much lower than private banks
- Rajesh Goyal, Chairman of Delhi Cooperative Housing Finance Corporation Limited, said "This will provide relief to Delhiites in installments every month. While the relief in installments will reduce the pressure on the borrowers, they will be able to bring other happiness to their family by saving."

real estate will also be removed. "This will reduce housing prices and middle-class families who have been living in rented houses for years will be able to buy homes for themselves. After lowering the interest rate, the instalment per month will be ₹760 per one lakh rupees, whereas earlier it was ₹803," he said.

Delhi Cooperative Housing Finance Corporation

is planning to announce a more attractive package of a housing loan scheme for the middle class and weaker section soon.

The Delhi Government had on Friday decided to reduce present circle rates related to residential/commercial/industrial properties in Delhi by flat 20 per cent across all categories of colonies and areas.

Govt brings Bill to replace ordinance facilitating regularisation of unauthorised colonies in Delhi

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri on Monday introduced the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second (Amendment) Bill, 2021 in the Rajya Sabha.

The National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second (Amendment) Bill, 2021 which seeks to replace the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 (Ordinance No. 15 of 2020) provides for extension of the validity of the Act of 2011 for a period of three years from 1st January, 2021 to 31st December, 2023.

The National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 which was promulgated by President Ram Nath Kovind on 30th December 2020. It

Illegal colonies that existed as on June 1, 2014 and had witnessed 50 per cent development as on January 1, 2015 will be eligible for regularisation

amended the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second Act, 2011.

The 2011 Act was valid till December 31, 2020. The Ordinance extended the deadline to December 31, 2023. The 2011 Act provided for the regularisation of the unauthorised colonies that existed in the national capital as on March 31, 2002 and where construction took place till June 1, 2014. The Ordinance amended this to provide that the unauthorised colonies will be identified for regularisation in accordance with the National Capital Territory of Delhi (Recognition of Property Rights of Residents in

Unauthorised Colonies) Act, 2019 and the National Capital Territory of Delhi (Recognition of Property Rights of Residents in Unauthorised Colonies) Regulations, 2019.

"The Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board Act, 2010, which deals with the Jhuggi-Jhopri clusters is in the process of amendment to bring it in consonance with the provisions of Act of 2011 in so far as date of existence of these clusters is concerned. Similarly, action envisaged for farm houses, special areas and all other areas of the National Capital Territory of Delhi is under consideration and will take some more time to complete," the Bill said.

Therefore, the unauthorised colonies that existed as on June 1, 2014 and had witnessed 50 per cent development as on January 1, 2015 will be eligible for regularisation. Now, the Government wants to convert the Ordinance into a legislation through this Bill.

Man held for murder in city

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has arrested a 50-year-old man for allegedly killing a person following a quarrel between them after they drank together in Delhi. Police said that the accused identified as Bala Sahni, allegedly stabbed Subhash Chandra (35) to death on January 28 after a quarrel broke out between them when he teased him over a woman.

Sahni, who originally hails from Bihar's Begusarai district, was arrested based on inputs that he would come to Uttam Nagar in Delhi on Thursday, police said.

Chandra, an e-rickshaw driver, had consumed alcohol with Sahni and one other person before the incident that took place at Nawada village of Mohan Garden area in Delhi.

According to Santosh Kumar Meena, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Dwarka district, with the help of technical surveillance and further investigation, it emerged that Chandra often teased Sahni, also an e-rickshaw driver, over a woman and that led to a quarrel between them.

5 AAP candidates file nominations for MCD bypolls

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Five Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) candidates filed their nominations for the upcoming MCD by-election.

Senior AAP leader and MCD in-charge Durgesh Pathak on Monday said that the five candidates of AAP will win by an overwhelming majority in the upcoming MCD by-election. He said that the citizens of Delhi have made up their mind to throw BJP out of MCD and elect the AAP.

Dhirendra Kumar (Bunty Gautam) from Ward Kalyanpuri 8E and Vijay Kumar from Ward Trilokpuri East 2E filed their nominations at the SDM office of Geeta Colony. Mohammad Ishraq Khan, the candidate from Ward Chauhan Banger 41E, filed nomination at the SDM office of Seelampur. Ram Chandra, the candidate from Ward Rohini C32N, filed nomination at Alipur SDM office. Sunita Mishra, the candidate from Ward Shalimar Bagh - North 62N, filed nomination at Kanjhawala SDM office.

Pathak said, "Five candidates of AAP will win by an overwhelming majority in the upcoming MCD by-election. The citizens of Delhi have made up their mind to throw BJP out of MCD and elect the AAP."

Vijay Kumar has been the secretary of the All India Safai Mazdoor Union and Dr B R Ambedkar Janmahotsav Committee. Vijay has been the Vice President of the MCD sanitation workers' union. He also runs animal shelters for animal health facilities in Trilokpuri. He has been involved in providing education to poor people of the area.

Sunita Mishra is the Shalimar Bagh ward's Mohalla coordinator and also secretary of the women's wing of Shalimar Bagh Assembly.

NMC school students still waiting for books: Cong

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The children studying in the schools run by the North Delhi Municipal Corporation (NMC) were not given a single penny for books, stationery, school bags, uniforms, shoes and other items despite the completion of the entire academic session, Congress leader in north Corporation Mukesh Goel said while initiating discussion on revised Budget estimates for the year 2020-2021 and Budget estimates for the year 2021-2022 in the special meeting on Monday.

The Corporation's performance in the field of education, sanitation and health services has been zero in the last one year, he said, adding that in Ayush and Allopathic hospitals, medicines were not even pur-

chased for the treatment of patients. On the other hand, due to scarcity of broom and other goods, along with the salary and arrears of the sanitation workers, there was heaps of garbage all over the year.

Goel further stated that the Municipal Corporation and the present Delhi Government have not made any effort to reduce air pollution and landfill site waste in Delhi. He said that during his tenure the Congress Government had converted one side of the Bhalasa landfill into greenery.

"The Audit report has questioned the project of Bhalasa landfill site, it can be inferred that the governments of Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) are not serious and sensitive to reduce the legacy

Congress leader in north Corporation Mukesh Goel said while initiating discussion on revised Budget estimates for the year 2020-2021 and Budget estimates for the year 2021-2022 in the special meeting on Monday

waste at landfill sites," he said. Presenting the figures in his budget statement, Goel said that in revised budget estimates for year 2020-21, the budget has been increased to ₹1042 crore, 55 lakh, 80 thousand rupees. Although, ₹1100

for school uniforms, ₹120 for school bags, ₹150 for stationery, ₹130 for buying toys, ₹1,000 for buying stationery items to SC /ST /OBC and minority students studying in corporation primary schools were not given by the NMC this year.

Goel said that in year 2020-21 from July 2020 to December 2020 the raw mid-day meal of six months for students studying in NMC schools was lapsed. Delhi Government wrote two letters to the corporation on October 16, 2020 and December 9, 2020 to lift the raw ration from FCI go-downs. "From July 2020, children were to be provided with a raw ration kit in the form of a mid-day meal every month. NMC has also not been able to pay the fund for the mid-day meal

for the months of May and June," he said.

The Congress leader also said that the Municipal Corporation is getting income from various sources equal to the expenditure on salaries of its employees still the ruling party is unable to pay the salaries of the employees.

"About ₹242.25 crore are spent every month on the salary and pension. In this context, the corporation has to spend about ₹4,119 crore annually on the salary and pension. The budgetary figures presented by the commissioner show that in the year 2019-20, the corporation earned a total of ₹4,252 crore from all its sources. However, the salary and pension of 4 to 5 months has not been given to the municipal employees," he said.

Gopal Rai holds review meeting with MCD officials

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Cabinet Minister Gopal Rai on Monday held a review meeting with the MCD officials and directed them to meet the RWA representatives to enquire about the complaints lodged by the residents and work to resolve them as soon as possible.

During the meeting, Rai said that there is a need to audit the stadium work at the Tikona Park independently because several complaints on this matter were received. Earlier also MCD sent two show-cause notices on the same issue to the contractors but no response was received, he said.

Rai said, "I have received various complaints regarding

the construction work of the mini-stadium which is being built at the Tikona Park. Taking cognizance of these complaints which clearly show that sub-standard materials were used in the construction I have directed to hold a third-party audit on this matter."

During the meeting, the Corporation officials said that because of the irregularities in the construction work, they had already sent two show-cause notices to the contractor. However, the officials also said that despite these notices the contractors are not following the rules and mentioned guidelines. Rai directed that immediate action should be taken and the matter should be thoroughly probed.

Officers share UPSC exam tips with school students

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi school students interacted with IAS officer Udit Prakash, Director Education and IPS officer Ingit Pratap Singh, DCP South West as part of a unique programme launched by Delhi Government for children aspiring for "Union Public Service Commission" (UPSC).

IPS Ingit Pratap and IAS Udit Prakash interacted with students as part of the second series of this initiative of Delhi Government. Under this program, UPSC aspirants in Delhi schools get a chance to interact with young IAS/IPS officers every month.

"The officers share their experiences, strategies and insights about UPSC exam preparation to help students develop a better understanding of the exam. In the second episode of this series today, 75

students from grades 9-12 attended the interaction with two young officers in person while more than 10,000 students watched it live on YouTube," the Government said in a statement.

IPS Ingit Pratap gave his four-fold mantra for success — focus, discipline, hard work and perseverance. IAS Udit Prakash said that it is our vision to infuse confidence in the students through these interactions and make them aim high.

Udit Prakash shared that Ingit Pratap Singh's mother is a teacher in a Delhi government school. He told the students, "There is not any difference between you and us. We were once in your place. With hard work and determination, you will be able to achieve your dreams and become an inspiration to many".

Ingit Pratap Singh shared his journey from entering the armed

forces and having to leave it thrice due to medical conditions, to finally becoming an IPS officer. About his trysts with challenges, he said, "Each time you fail, you have to keep working. You cannot give up. If one door is closed, knock on the other."

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia also joined the interaction at Sarvodaya Bal Vidyalaya, Rouse Avenue and exhorted students to follow their dream with full passion. He said, "One should not study for just marks, one should study to learn. That way, study never seems like a burden". He further added that along with knowledge and skills, one should be passionate about their dreams.

IPS Ingit Pratap Singh stressed on the importance of choosing subjects one is interested in and being as passionate about the preparation as one is about cracking the exam.

BJP candidates file nominations for civic body bypolls

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidates filed their nominations for municipal by-elections on Monday in the presence of senior Delhi BJP leaders including its president Adesh Gupta.

The candidates performed puja with party workers before reaching nomination centres in simple yet impressive processions with limited people due to covid restrictions.

Addressing party workers, Gupta said that Shalimar Bagh is a stronghold of BJP and expressed confidence that party will win from here with a large margin. He called upon party workers to complete the work of door-to-door voter list check in the wards going to polls by the weekend and then concentrate on ensuring high voting by party sympathizers which will ensure the party's win in these polls.

The party candidate from Rohini C ward Rakesh Goel

also offered puja in the presence of senior party leaders including North West District President Devendra Solanki before proceeding to file his nomination papers.

Rakesh Goel accompanied by MP Hans Raj Hans, senior MLA Vijender Gupta, Delhi BJP general secretary Dinesh Pratap Singh and the district president filed his nomination at the SDM office in Alipur. MLA Ajay Mahawar and North East district president Mohan along with party workers accompanied Chauhan Banger Ward candidate Mohd. Nazir Ansari as he filed his nomination at SDM office, Seelampur.

Ram Kanojia from Kalyanpuri ward and Om Prakash Gugarwal from Trilokpuri East ward also performed puja with party workers including Mayur Vihar district president Vinod Barcheti and MLAs Abhay Verma and Om Prakash Sharma besides Pradesh Purwanchal Morcha president Kaushal Mishra. SR

Cong candidates file nominations for MCD bypolls

New Delhi: A large number of Congress workers along with Delhi Congress president Anil Kumar accompanied party candidates to file their nomination for MCD by-election.

Congress candidates Bal Kishan (Ward No 2-E, Trilok Puri East (SC)), Dharampal Maurya (Ward No 8-E, Kalyan Puri (SC)), Memwati Barwala (Ward No 32-N, Rohini-C) and Mamta (Ward No 62-N, Shalimar Bagh North (W)), Chauhan Banger Ward No 41-E (Seelampur) and Chaudhary Zubair Ahamed filed their nomination papers on Monday.

Kumar asserted that Congress will sweep all the five MCD seats in the bye-elections, as people have now realized that only Congress can provide development-driven, people-beneficial governance, which was evident from the Congress party's excellent track record when it was in power in the corporations for five years.

The Congress Vice Chairman Jaikishan said that the MCDs have ruined the clean and green image of Delhi by converting it into a garbage capital.



Comprehensive steps in the last few years have propelled India to being among the most attractive start-up ecosystems globally. The spirit and innovation of our young start-up leaders is constantly leading to outstanding results.

Accelerating Excellence in Startup Ecosystem with National Startup Awards 2021

STARTUPS

Prize of ₹5 Lakh

INCUBATORS

Prize of ₹15 Lakh

ACCELERATORS

Prize of ₹15 Lakh

Eligibility for Participation

- The startup should be DPIIT recognized.
- The startup must have a hardware or software product or a process solution that is present in the market with all applicable trade-specific registrations.
- There should not have been any financial default in the last 3 years.

Apply now to showcase your Startup's impact in furthering the resolve of Aatmanirbhar Bharat

www.startupindia.gov.in/awards

Last date of Submission : 15th February, 2021



Government of India
Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade



Proof of ancient Himalayan quake

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Scientists have found the first geological evidence of an earthquake at Himebasti Village on the border of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, documented by historians as the Sadiya earthquake in history and recorded to have caused massive destruction in the region almost destroying the town in 1697 CE.

This finding by the scientists from Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology (WIHG), a research institute under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), could contribute to a seismic hazard map of the eastern Himalaya, which can facilitate construction and planning in the region. This work has been recently published in the journal 'Scientific Report'.

Historical archives refer to often recurring earthquakes along the Eastern Himalaya for which geological evidence is lacking, raising the question of

DOCUMENTED AS THE SADIYA EARTHQUAKE IN HISTORY AND RECORDED TO HAVE CAUSED MASSIVE DESTRUCTION IN 1697 CE



whether these events ruptured the surface or remained blind and how they contribute to the seismic budget of the region, which is home to millions of inhabitants.

Scientists Arjun Pandey, R Jayangondaperumal, György Hetényi, Rao Singh Priyanka, Ishwar Singh, Pradeep Srivastava and Hari B Srivastava from the Dehradun based institute carried out a mega trench

excavation at Himebasti village, Arunachal Pradesh, India, where the most recent event records the imprints of the 1697 Sadiya earthquake and analysed it with modern geological techniques.

They found the first geological surface rupture signatures in the form of exposed deposits associated with rivers and streams deformed by a thrust fault along a Northeast

dipping fault zone. In order to constrain the causative faulting event at this site, the team dated twenty-one radiocarbon samples from the trench exposure.

The scientists also found large tree trunks embedded in the youngest flood deposits at the exit of the Subansiri River (Sadiya town is located roughly 145 km southeast of Subansiri river), suggesting the post-seismic aggradation of the river following an array of aftershocks till six months in an abortive fashion.

The study of the earthquake at Sadiya standing on a grassy plain, almost surrounded by forested Eastern Himalayas on the right bank of Lohit River, adds an important site to the seismic hazard assessment of the eastern Himalaya, which will benefit the inhabitants and help in providing better infrastructure across the Eastern Himalayan foothills which is one of the most densely populated regions in the world, said the study.

Cong corners Govt in LS

Questions Balakot air-strike leak, seeks to form JPC on TRP scam

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

After a week-long derailment by the Opposition, as the Lok Sabha on Monday resumed normal functioning following an appeal by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury launched a scathing attack on the Modi-Government, demanding to know who "leaked" information on the Balakot-air-strike for "election benefit" and described it as a case of "treason". He sought the Government to constitute a JPC on the "TRP scam" and wanted government to provide information on the alleged Chinese occupation of "1000 Sq km of land" on the Line of Control (LoC) along Ladakh.

Earlier, Singh said that it was a duty of every member to maintain the tradition of passing the Motion of Thanks to President's address. He also said that Rajya Sabha has already passed the Motion of Thanks after Prime Minister Narendra

Modi's reply and "I appeal to members not to break this tradition in the Lok Sabha".

While Speaker Om Birla also appealed to the members to allow the House to function and not indulge in sloganeering, Chowdhury too said that this tradition has been continuing since 1921 and should not be broken. "Our demand was to discuss the issue of farmers who have been sitting in the cold on the borders of Delhi in protest against farm laws. It is regrettable that they are being stopped from entering the capital by sharp nails and barbed wires," he said referring to the reinforced barricading at the farmers' protest sites.

In the backdrop of farmers' agitation, Chowdhury alleged that government has created a "narrative" first again Muslims and now vis-a-vis farmers that "they are enemies of the country".

"Why can't prime Minister talk with farmers? Why is this arrogance?," he asked.

He accused that hoisting of

flag in the Red Fort was not carried out by farmers but "planned" by the government. "Truth is that you wanted this to happen...it is a well-thought out conspiracy of yours, you reached them there," said Chowdhury and demanded a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on it.

The opposition MP criticised the government for striking at 18-year-old environmental activist Greta Thunberg for supporting "kisan movement" when PM himself had, he said, extended support in the USA by saying "ab ki baar Trump Sarkar".

Initiating discussion from his party on the Vote of thanks on the President's address, the Congress leader said merely quoting great people like Rabindranath Tagore, Swami Vivekanand or Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose does not amount to following their ideas.

He said Prime Minister talked about great people but their ideas need to be imple-

mented too. For the BJP, its MP Locket Chatterjee initiated the debate accusing West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and her party TMC of "politicising" and "insulting Ram-Sita".

She charged the state government with blocking central schemes and pursuing 'appeasement policies'. Opening the Discussion on the Vote of thanks on the President's address for the BJP, the MP from Hoogly went all out in accusing TMC leaders of "pocketing money" meant for the common public.

She said central schemes for farmers are blocked by the TMC government. Chatterjee said: "2021 is a historic year when India enters the 75th year of its independence and I pay homage to those who lost their lives for our freedom. The Modi government has taken many big decisions for the betterment of the country like GST and handling the coronavirus pandemic properly."

CBI arrests MES junior engineer on charge of demanding, accepting bribe

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI on Monday arrested a junior engineer of Military Engineer Service for allegedly demanding and accepting a bribe of ₹32,000 from the complainant.

A case was registered against the JE, MES (ND), Visakhapatnam on the allegations that the complainant was awarded a contract with certain works worth ₹20,92,470 and he completed the said works, the CBI said in a statement.

It was further alleged that the complainant received ₹6 lakh against the first bill and submitted remaining bills to the office of AGE, B/R-II, MES, Visakhapatnam.

The complainant met the Junior Engineer to enquire about pending bills, under whose supervision, the complainant executed the work of ₹4 lakh. The JE allegedly



demanding ₹32,000 for certifying the bills and asked the complainant to pay the amount at his office, it said.

It was also alleged that the accused told the complainant that if he failed to pay the amount, his remaining bill amount would be stopped by sending adverse observations. CBI laid a trap and caught the accused red handed while demanding and accepting a bribe of ₹32,000 from the complainant, it said.

Searches were conducted at the office and residential premises of accused at Visakhapatnam and Kovilpatty (Tamil Nadu) which led to recovery of incriminating doc-

uments. The arrested accused Sankar Narayana was produced before the Competent Court at Visakhapatnam and remanded to judicial custody for 14 days

Chargesheet filed against 7 for illegal cross-border cattle trade

The agency on Monday filed a chargesheet against seven accused including then Commandant, BSF, Satish Kumar and private persons Md. Enamul Haque, Anarul Seikh, Md. Golam Mustafa, Taniya Sanyal, Badal Krishna Sanyal and Rashida Bibi before the Special Court, Asansol (West Bengal) in a case related to alleged illegal cross-border trade of cattle.

New Delhi: An estimated 6-10 million people in India live with active epilepsy (Seizure) but a large magnitude of treatment gap, ranging from about 22 per cent in the urban middle class population and more so in villages, about 90 per cent haunts the patients.

"This is because of a string of reasons such as inadequate access to or awareness of anti-epilepsy medications, poverty, stigma/ cultural beliefs associated with epilepsy, insufficient health infrastructure, shortage of professionals trained in epileptology, inequitable distributions of available resources in rural areas and high cost of treatment," experts pointed out on the occasion of the World Epilepsy Day being marked on every second Monday of February.

Dr RK Dhamija, HOD of the Neurology at Delhi-based premier hospital Dr Lady Hardinge Medical College said that, "Seizures can be controlled. An estimated 25% of epilepsy cases are preventable. Up to 70 per cent of people



living with the condition could become seizure free with appropriate use of antiseizure medicines. Low-cost treatment is available." He called for urgent



Doctors of Dr Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi, hold an event on the World Epilepsy Day on Monday. Pioneer photo

strengthening of the healthcare in the rural areas which has higher rates of epilepsy cases with huge gap in treatment. "Epilepsy can result in significant injury as

well as death, if left untreated. Also, status epilepticus (SE) can be a potentially lethal situation," added Dr Dhamija.

Dr Nilesh Kurwale, Epilepsy Surgeon, Coordinator for Bajaj Allianz Centre for Epilepsy, Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital, Pune was of the opinion that if treatment with anti-epileptic medication fails to provide adequate seizure relief, an individual may be considered for a surgical work up. "There is a large amount of data to suggest

that some epilepsy syndromes may be especially amenable to high rates of seizure freedom through a surgical procedure; temporal lobe epilepsy, being the most common candidate," he said, according to a report.

However, it is the stigma which is more fatal than the epilepsy itself. "The stigma of the disease can discourage people from seeking treatment for symptoms, so as to avoid becoming identified with the disease," said the WHO.

Causes & Preventions

Causes: Brain damage from prenatal or perinatal causes (e.g. a loss of oxygen or trauma during birth, low birth weight)/ congenital abnormalities or genetic conditions with associated brain malformations/ severe head injury/ stroke that restricts the amount of oxygen to the brain/ an infection of the brain such as meningitis, encephalitis or neurocysticercosis/certain genetic syndromes/brain tumour

Prevention: Preventing head injury is the most effective way to prevent post-traumatic epilepsy/ adequate perinatal care/ use of drugs and other methods to lower the body temperature of a febrile child can reduce the chance of febrile seizures/ prevention of epilepsy associated with stroke is focused on cardiovascular risk factor reduction/ avoidance of tobacco and excessive alcohol use/ Central nervous system infections

Left urges Centre to stop privatisation of Vizag steel plant

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Left parties on Monday urged the Centre to stop the privatization of Navratna PSU Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (RINL).

CPI general secretary D Raja said the private operators in the steel sector are eyeing on the 23,000 acres of the PSU steel plant and urged the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs to withdraw the 100 percent disinvestment decision. CITU general secretary Tapan Sen welcomed the state wide protest against the Centre's decision to sell off RINL.

"Over 50 years ago, 23,000 acres of farm land were acquired to set up the steel plant. Farmers were not paid their money properly. Now the land is worth lakhs of crores of rupees. If the present move is allowed, a private company will take over the steel plant and grab the land. The Government has made no effort to explore all possibilities to run the steel plant. No iron-ore mine has been allotted to the Visakhapatnam

Steel Plant. All private steel plants get iron-ore mines. Lakhs of people are directly and indirectly working for the steel plant. Even the state government headed by Jagan Mohan Reddy, pointing out that the plant stands as a testimony to the will of the Telugu people has asked the Union government to reconsider its decision," said Raja.

"Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) congratulates the workers and people for their collective initiative to resist the disastrous move of the Government to privatise Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, RINL through strategic sale. CITU extends solidarity to such united struggle of the people and workers to resist the nefarious move to hand over RINL to private hands and calls upon the working people in general to express solidarity to the ongoing struggle at Visakhapatnam. Everywhere privatization move must be resisted and must not be allowed to materialize through peoples' collective action and intervention in order to defend the nation and the national economy," said Sen.

Rafale induction ceremony cost Govt ₹41.32 lakh, RS told

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The induction ceremony of the first five Rafale fighter jets into the IAF at the Ambala airbase in September last year cost the exchequer ₹41.32 lakhs, the Government informed the Rajya Sabha on Monday.

Elaborating upon the expenses incurred, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said the armed forces have a tradition for such inductions and such ceremonies were also held while inducting the Apache and Chinook helicopters.

Moreover, this money was spent as India and France held bilateral delegation level meetings during the ceremony, Rajnath said in the house. The talks were held between the French and Indian defence ministers, Rajnath said.

"All new aircraft types in IAF are traditionally inducted through a befitting ceremony... The arrangements for this event were made mostly through local resources of IAF," the Defence Ministry said in a



'Ceasefire violation increased at LoC, Pak given befitting reply'

Pakistan has always resorted to an increase in ceasefire violations after major terrorist attacks like the one in Pathankot and Uri in the last few years, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said here on Monday. However, the Indian security forces were giving a befitting reply he said.

Making these points in the Rajya Sabha while responding to questions on spike in ceasefire violations, he said 5,133 incidents took place last year in which 46 security men were killed. Replying to leader of opposition Ghulam Nabi Azad's question that such violations were more during the NDA regime as compared to the UPA stint, Singh said the number of violations had increased from 2011 onwards.

India-US joint military exercise begins

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The India-US joint military exercise 'Yudh Abhyas 20' commenced on Monday in Mahajan Field Firing Range of Bikaner district in Rajasthan. This is the 16th edition of annual bilateral joint exercise of both the armies and will continue till the 21st of this month. The previous version of the joint exercise was held at Seattle in the United States.

Brigadier Mukesh Bhanwala, Commander of the 170 Infantry Brigade of the Indian Army, welcomed the US contingent at the firing range and impressed upon both the armies to achieve optimum cohesion and interoperability during the exercise.

He laid stress on the importance of free exchange of ideas, concepts and best practices between the troops and the necessity to learn from



each other's operational experiences, defence spokesperson Lt Col Amitabh Sharma said.

"The exercise will enrich both the contingents from each other's rich experience in

counter-insurgency operations. Besides counter-insurgency operations, exchange of experiences in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief will also be a part of the exercise," the spokesperson said in a

statement.

The official said a number of aerial platforms, including the newly inducted indigenous Advance Light Helicopter WSI 'RUDRA', MI-17, Chinooks, Stryker Vehicles of the US Army and BMP-II Mechanised Infantry Combat Vehicles of the Indian Army, will be utilised in the exercise, which will go on till February 21.

The drill comes days after the air forces of India and France held a five-day joint exercise in Rajasthan in January.

About 250 soldiers from each side are participating in the exercise. The two armies will share their war-related techniques, skills and experience with each other during this exercise. The exercise is one of the largest military training and defense cooperation efforts between India and the United States.

Air filming of cricket matches soon

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Drones may soon bring cricket even closer to the fans, with the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) allowing the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to use the live aerial cinematography to cover cricket matches in 2021.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) had received requests from BCCI and M/s Quidich pertaining to granting of request and other correspondences regarding permission to use Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) for live aerial filming.

It is yet unclear how early drones will be used in cricket matches, or if they will be used for the next matches in the ongoing India-England series.

Aerial cameras, hanging by a cable, known as



Spidercam, Skycam have been common in cricket matches now. Drones, too, have been used before, in the 2017 Champions Trophy. But this was limited to analysing the pitch before the start of the match.

"The Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) and Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) have granted a conditional exemption to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) for the deployment of drones for live aerial cinematography of the India Cricket Season in 2021," the Ministry said on Monday. The exemption is valid till December 31, 2021.

According to the MOCA,

the BCCI has to obtain necessary clearances from (a) Local Administration (b) Ministry of Defence (c) Ministry of Home Affairs (d) Air Defence Clearance from Indian Air Force and (e) Airport Authority of India (AAI) [as applicable] prior to operation of Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS).

Moreover, M/s Quidich engaged by BCCI as RPAS operator shall only operate the RPAS models specified in the approved standard operating procedures (SOP) dated 8th January 2021. The operations of the RPAS having valid Drone Acknowledgement Number (DAN) [specified in the SOP] shall be operated as per the above-mentioned SOP in the area specified therein.

Any change in the approved SOP for e.g. change in procedures or RPAS or use case or personnel or area specified in the approved SOP shall

be included in the SOP and submitted to DGCA for approval.

Also, the BCCI has to take necessary permission regarding aerial photography from Directorate of Regulations and Information, DGCA or Ministry of Defence (as applicable).

"The drone ecosystem is evolving rapidly in our country. Its utilization is expanding from agriculture, mining, healthcare and disaster management to sports and entertainment. The granting of this permission is in line with the objectives of the Government of India to promote the commercial use of drones in the country," said Amber Dubej, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation said.

"The Drone Rules 2021 are in the final stages of discussion with the law ministry. We are hoping to receive the approvals by March 2021," he added.

Purvanchal e-way to be completed by March: Yogi 'PM will inaugurate it in April'

Lucknow/Ghazipur/Azamgarh (UP): Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday said the construction of the six-lane Purvanchal Expressway will be completed by March and it will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in April.

Adityanath was on a visit to Ghazipur and Azamgarh to inspect the construction work of the expressway. "Once the Purvanchal Expressway is complete, people from Ghazipur can reach Lucknow in three hours and Delhi in 10 hours," Adityanath said at a programme in Ghazipur.

"The mafia had obstructed the pace of development in Uttar Pradesh (in the past) and now, the government is seizing their illegal properties," he added.

The campaign initiated

against the mafia will continue and they will not be allowed to stay in Uttar Pradesh, the chief minister said. He also appealed to the people's representatives to take the welfare programmes of the government to the public.

At Azamgarh, Adityanath said, "The construction work of the expressway is moving at a fast pace. By March, the expressway will be completed and Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate it in April."

He said the expressway will be built in three years despite COVID-19, adding, "This model of development has become a centre of attraction for the country and the world."

"Azamgarh had a bad reputation till four years ago. People from here found it difficult to get rented accommodation in other cities, but the situation has changed in four years and

Azamgarh is now becoming a model of development," Adityanath said.

Speaking at Lucknow later, the chief minister rued that earlier, even small projects that were supposed to be completed in a year took 10 to 12 years to complete.

"When the BJP government came to power in 2017, the Baan Sagar irrigation project was completed and dedicated to the nation. This project was planned in 1973 by the Planning Commission and the foundation was laid in 1978 by the then prime minister Morarji Desai, but it kept lying for almost 40 years," he said, adding that several schemes were announced but the works could not be carried out in a time-bound manner and the estimates were revised with the government not giving funds. **PTI**

Pak intruder shot in Samba sector

Jammu: A Pakistani intruder, believed to be a local guide of Pakistan based terror outfit, was gunned down by the alert jawans of the Border Security Force while he was 'aggressively' attempting to breach the barbed border fence near BoP (border outpost) Chak Faqira in the Samba sector on Monday.



started approaching the barbed wire fence very aggressively. The BSF sentries present in the border outpost

According to official sources, the suspicious movement of the intruder was spotted by the BSF jawans around 2.30 a.m and a tight vigil was maintained to prevent any infiltration bid. After a seven hour long wait, the intruder emerged from the hiding and

warned him and also fired warning shots. Instead of retreating the intruder approached the barbed wire fence very aggressively in a bid to breach the same.

Briefing media persons about the incident, IG BSF Jammu Frontier, N S Jamwal told reporters at the border outpost, "at around 9:45 am, alert BSF troops saw Pakistani intruder heading towards border fence near border outpost (BOP) 64 along the international border in Chak Faqira area".

"Despite repeated warnings, the intruder kept moving under suspicious circumstances and approached the

border fence in an aggressive manner. That was the time when BSF personnel opened fire, killing him on the spot," IG BSF, Jammu frontier said.

Earlier on November 23, 2020 another intruder was shot dead by the BSF in the same border belt. Official sources claimed, the Pak intruder may have been acting as a guide and was sent on a reconnaissance mission ahead of pushing a group of armed infiltrators inside the Indian territory to launch a terror strike.

BSF had also detected a cross border tunnel in the same area in the month of August 2020. **PNS**

No place for any mafia in UP: Yogi

Ghazipur (UP): Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday reiterated that there is no place for any mafia in the State and said that he has vowed to eliminate such elements.

The Yogi Government has already seized illegal assets worth about ₹1,000 crore of more than 40 mafia elements, including Mukhtar Ansari, Ateeq Ahmad, Vijay Mishra, Sundar Bhati and others

The Chief Minister, while addressing a programme in Ghazipur, said, "Our government is constantly moving towards wiping out the entire mafia culture which hindered the development of Purvanchal for long. Previous governments patronised mafia and criminals in the state due to which the development of the state received a massive setback."

Adityanath was here to review the progress of the 340-km Purvanchal Expressway. He said, "There is no place for those who give patronage to the mafias, criminal and other rogue elements in the new Uttar Pradesh of 'Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat'. While we are working towards the welfare of

villages, farmers, youth, and development, on the other hand, it is also very important to destroy the mafia culture that has become a hindrance to the development of Purvanchal."

The Yogi Government has already seized illegal assets worth about ₹1,000 crore of more than 40 mafia elements including Mukhtar Ansari, Ateeq Ahmad, Vijay Mishra, Sundar Bhati and others.

The state government is also demolishing illegal properties of mafia dons and their close aides. Cases have been registered against 800 gangsters and their close associates. **IANS**

Kerala CPM accused of nepotism in Govt jobs recruitment

KOCHI: The fag end of the Pinarayi Vijayan-led Kerala Government is witnessing unprecedented agitations by unemployed youth demanding jobs even as various groups have started submitting memorandums to the Governor listing how the State administration subverts rank lists prepared by Public Service Commission and appoints relatives of CPI(M) leaders.

Monday saw the ignominy of two youths, disappointed over the Government ignoring their plea to appoint them though they figure the rank list prepared by the PSC, setting themselves ablaze in front of the State Secretariat at Thiruvananthapuram. Timely intervention by Police and onlookers saved their lives. This is the first time in its history an incident like this is hap-

pening in Kerala. Piju and Praveen were among the youths who have been staging a sit-in in front of the State Secretariat since January 26 demanding they be appointed in Government Service as they figure in the rank list of last grade employees prepared by the PSC. But the Kerala Government has been busy appointing persons who do not figure in the list, demolishing the employment dreams of these youths.

Meanwhile an organisation by name Save University Campaign Committee based at the capital city submitted a memorandum to the Governor of Kerala, who is also the Chancellor of all the Universities in the State, listing instances of impropriety in appointing assistant professors to various universities.

The committee has given a detailed account of how the wife of M B Rajesh, former MP representing the CPI(M), was appointed in Sree Sankara Sanskrit University allegedly violating all norms. "Political consideration looms large all through the preparation of the rank-list for the Asst. Professor appointment in the Malayalam dept so as to appoint first rank holder Ninitha Kanichery who was only a poor 212th rank holder in an earlier selection process made by the KPSC for appointment of Asst. Professors in the Government Colleges, overlooking highly qualified candidates who got higher position in the PSC rank list over the candidate," reads the Memorandum, a copy of which is with The Pioneer. **PNS**

Sasikala draws huge crowd as she enters TN as free bird

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

As she was welcomed by thousands of party workers who had thronged the Bangalore-Chennai highway since morning, V K Sasikala, the former aide to late J Jayalalitha, gave enough hints to the AIADMK leadership that she would not be cowed down by restrictions and suppression.

"I'll engage myself in active politics in days to come for party workers," Sasikala told media persons in a brief interaction at Thirupathur where she was accorded a rousing reception by the cadres of AIADMK and AMMK.

She said she was not the type who could be enslaved by the powers that be. This was in response to the queries by reporters whether she will be visiting the AIADMK headquarters and the Jayalalitha Memorial at Chennai's Marina Beach.

If the crowd which had gathered to welcome her back to Tamil Nadu is any indication, Chief Minister Edappadi Palanisamy and his deputy O Panneerselvam may have to rework their strategies to counter "Chinnamma", as she is addressed even by party leaders. Sasikala (66) was released from Parappana Agrahara Central Jail on January 27 as she completed the four year jail term in connection with the disproportionate asset case.

"This could not be a mobilized crowd as it is difficult to bring this many people by organisers. I am sure most of the party cadres came to welcome her on their own," said a State Intelligence Officer who was monitoring the journey of Sasikala from Bangalore.

Veteran scribe Sam Rajappa said the turn out of the people to welcome Sasikala was his-

toric. "I don't think any political leaders, both State and National, were accorded such welcome in Tamil Nadu's history," said Sam Rajappa.

Even as Sasikala set on her journey to Chennai, what stood out was the witty duel between her nephew TTV Dhinakaran and D Jayakumar, minister of fisheries in Edappadi Palanisamy Government.

Jayakumar, who had played a key role in easing out Sasikala and her family members from the AIADMK in September 2017, alleged on Sunday that Dhinakaran has taken all money owned by Sasikala. "Dhinakaran is afraid that Sasikala would ask him for accounts. Till the other day he was claiming that AIADMK was a closed chapter. He had insulted the party symbol of Two Leaves by claiming that with the demise of Jayalalitha, the party symbol too has lost relevance," said Jayakumar.

He said Dhinakaran made a vault face by declaring that the Amma Makkal Munnetra Kazhagam was launched with the intention of retrieving the AIADMK and the Two Leaves symbol. Whatever possibilities of patch-up between the AIADMK and the AMMK were there look bleak as on Monday as Sasikala accompanied by hundreds of cars was on her way to the MGR Memorial at Ramavaram in a Chennai suburb. She had called on Ramavaram Gardens, MGR's personal residence, while on her way to the Bangalore Prison for surrendering before the authorities in 2017.

But what is of interest is whether she would visit Jayalalitha Memorial at Marina beach to pay her respects to her Amma (as Jayalalitha was addressed by her) whom she served with devotion for more than three decades.

Man kills pregnant wife, minor daughter in UP

Baghpat: In a shocking incident, a 30-year-old man killed his pregnant wife and minor daughter in Baghpat district on Monday following an argument.

The man, who worked as a barber, later went to the police station and admitted his crime.

The incident took place at the Gayatri Puram locality here under the Kotwali police station area.

Circle officer M S Rawat said the accused Gulfam was suffering from cancer. **IANS**

HDB Financial Services Limited Ground Floor, Zenith House, Keshavnagar Khadye Marg, Mahalaxmi, Mumbai -400034
Tel. No. : +91 22 49116300

FINAL AUCTION CUM SALE NOTICE FOR GOLD ORNAMENTS

The borrower(s) (whose details are provided in the table herein below), in particular, and the public, in general, are hereby informed that the below mentioned accounts are overdue, and the borrowers/account holders have not responded/complied with the communication, and notice sent by HDB Financial Services Limited (the "Company") requesting the borrower to clear his/her dues as per the documents in respect of the below mentioned loan signed/accepted by the borrower(s) (such documents, collectively "loan agreement") and therefore defaulted in terms thereof. The Company has in exercise of its rights as a pledgee, decided to enforce the pledge and therefore hold a public auction of the gold ornaments pledged to the company as security for the loan for the purpose of selling the same and realizing/recovering the dues owned by the borrower(s) to the company. The auction will be conducted on 15-02-2021 at the below mentioned local branch of HDB Financial Services Limited from 11.00 am onwards on the date and branches mentioned in the below table:

S. No.	Loan No.	Customer Name	Date Of Loan	Overdue Amount Rs.	Branch Name
1	9645382	Pankaj Yadav	13-Nov-19	22714	Delhi- Bhajjanpura
2	9645466	Pankaj Yadav	13-Nov-19	30033	Delhi- Bhajjanpura
3	10840005	Jitendra K	11-Feb-20	9610	Delhi- Bhajjanpura
4	5405288	Jitendra K	29-Sep-18	7265	Delhi- Bhajjanpura
5	5225066	Jitendra K	7-Sep-18	7528	Delhi- Bhajjanpura
6	11549155	Poonam Jagpal	12-Jun-20	17727	Delhi- Kashmiri Gate
7	8104426	Lokender Sharma	3-Jul-19	32022	Delhi- Keshavnagar
8	11289916	Vaibhav Singh	18-Mar-20	19389	Delhi Ncr - Burari
9	11629996	Jatin Kumar Verma	19-Jun-20	62593	Delhi Ncr - Burari
50	2881520	Kumud Devi	25-Jul-17	5629	Delhi- Anand Nagar
11	6737549	Chander Pal Singh	24-Feb-19	11194	Delhi Ncr - Burari
12	9055448	Mohd Yasin	3-Oct-19	12543	Delhi- Shahdara
13	12190695	Rohit Kumar	18-Aug-20	9518	Delhi- Shahdara
14	8965634	Salveen Ahmad	24-Sep-19	26059	Delhi- Shahdara
15	10859681	Anil Gandhi	13-Feb-20	67463	Delhi Uttam Nagar
16	3921904	Shweta Singh	17-Feb-18	8390	Delhi- Anand Nagar
17	11027956	Aneesh Kumar Yadav	3-Mar-20	12837	Delhi- Anand Nagar
18	12259307	Vijay Parbat	26-Aug-20	18051	Delhi- Anand Nagar
19	10718324	Mohammad Yameen	29-Jan-20	29008	Delhi- Dilshad Garden
20	11745933	Naresh Kumar	2-Jul-20	24332	Delhi- Dilshad Garden
21	11900883	Vipin Brham Singh	17-Jul-20	18110	Delhi- Dilshad Garden
22	11391032	Dilshad Ali	18-May-20	18213	Delhi- Dilshad Garden
23	12082568	Alok Kumar	7-Aug-20	31973	Delhi- Dilshad Garden
45	12192025	Deepak Kumar	13-Aug-20	12837	Delhi- Dilshad Garden
25	12387138	Dharmendra Kumar	7-Sep-20	14299	Delhi- Dilshad Garden
26	5343022	Rohit Mehra	21-Sep-18	17420	Delhi- Dilshad Garden
27	7267744	Raman Arora	16-Apr-19	10554	Delhi- Dilshad Garden
28	7322349	Mohd Yameen	20-Apr-19	11282	Delhi- Dilshad Garden
29	7916070	Rohit Mehra	15-Jun-19	19910	Delhi- Dilshad Garden
30	7916474	Rohit Mehra	15-Jun-19	16002	Delhi- Dilshad Garden
31	7802927	Dharmendra Virenderkumar	7-Jun-19	22462	Delhi- Dilshad Garden
32	7800612	Dharmendra Virenderkumar	7-Jun-19	31810	Delhi- Dilshad Garden
33	8933860	Meena Gupta	21-Sep-19	27916	Delhi- Dilshad Garden
34	6195124	Vijay Singh	26-Dec-18	7651	Delhi- Hari Nagar
35	10117772	Saransh Sadh	24-Dec-19	23200	Delhi- Kailash Nagar
36	10400570	Abir Israr	14-Jan-20	57459	Delhi- Kailash Nagar
37	11950990	Rahul Kumar	23-Jul-20	18706	Delhi- Kailash Nagar
38	11088793	Rakesh Kumar	2-Mar-20	20977	Delhi- Kailash Nagar
39	12405966	Mayank Jain	9-Sep-20	33974	Delhi- Kailash Nagar
40	6727062	Ravinder Singh	23-Feb-19	52271	Delhi- Kailash Nagar
41	6873105	Waseem Alam	12-Mar-19	14562	Delhi- Kailash Nagar
42	7258865	Mayank Jain	17-Apr-19	39472	Delhi- Kailash Nagar
43	12044535	Namrata Rai	6-Aug-20	62886	Delhi- Kamla Nagar
44	7103090	Mehar Singh	31-Mar-19	7330	Delhi- Laxmi Nagar
45	1043039	Akash Maan	19-Aug-20	50231	Delhi- Mayapuri
46	10969969	Rahees Sabir	20-Feb-20	11385	Delhi- Mayapuri
47	11637592	Om Prakash	19-Jun-20	23642	Delhi- Mayapuri
48	11450120	Amar Singh	31-May-20	18420	Delhi- Nai Sadak
49	8845205	Akhlaq Faiz Khan	16-Sep-19	51418	Delhi- Nai Sadak
50	8714862	Balwant Singh	31-Aug-19	20314	Delhi- Nai Sadak
51	10943880	Vinod M	18-Feb-20	11451	Delhi- Nangloi
52	8317200	Subhash R	16-Jun-19	23455	Delhi- Nangloi
53	11649887	Pardeep K	20-Jun-20	22671	Delhi- Nangloi
54	6925677	Sikander Sheikh	15-Mar-19	40595	Delhi- Nangloi
55	10798013	Rajeev Kumar	7-Feb-20	14681	Delhi- Narela
56	3921601	Kavita K	28-Feb-18	20557	Delhi- Narela
57	8793278	Dinesh So Brahmprakash	9-Sep-19	22909	Delhi- Narela
58	12644322	Abhinmayu A	19-Sep-20	22297	Delhi- Ramesh Nagar
59	1043039	Balvinder Singh	19-Aug-20	51073	Delhi- Sadar
60	10467829	Abhishek K	17-Jan-20	16939	Delhi- Sadar
61	11551306	Lalit Singh	10-Jun-20	12383	Delhi- Sadar
62	5601612	Shamsh Tabrez	24-Oct-18	14137	Delhi- Sadar
63	7862172	Khurshed K	10-Jun-19	15455	Delhi- Sadar
64	12284412	Dhanchal Devi	28-Aug-20	20785	Delhi- Tilak Nagar
65	8348138	Mohammad Tahfique	25-Jul-19	12883	Delhi- Tilak Nagar
66	9827526	Shashi Kashyap	29-Nov-19	27113	Delhi- Vasundhara
67	11672483	Reena Rani	24-Jun-20	11869	Ghaziabad
68	11032328	Neeraj Kumar	26-Feb-20	11355	Ghaziabad
69	11205321	Seema Chauhan	12-Mar-20	17328	Ghaziabad
70	12015915	Anil Singh Chauhan	31-Jul-20	20785	Ghaziabad
71	4766448	Mukesh Sharma	3-Jul-18	30319	Ghaziabad
72	6644322	Mohit Choudhary	14-Feb-19	33195	Ghaziabad
73	7105819	Ravindra Singh	31-Mar-19	5107	Ghaziabad
74	7337690	Surender Bai	22-Apr-19	11020	Ghaziabad
75	12066789	Pradeep Kumar	6-Aug-20	13662	Ghaziabad- Gt Road
76	10428952	Shiv Kumar	14-Jan-20	8914	Ghaziabad- Navvuy Market
77	10636500	Vijay Kumar Sharma	22-Jan-20	9955	Ghaziabad- Navvuy Market
78	11788669	Nishu Saini	6-Jul-20	15582	Ghaziabad- Navvuy Market
79	11399195	Amit Kumar Garg	21-May-20	55141	Ghaziabad- Navvuy Market
80	10739836	Pintoo Tiagi	4-Feb-20	11079	Ghaziabad- Vasundhara
81	11414346	Ranjit Shukla	26-May-20	11251	Ghaziabad- Vasundhara
82	9945472	Arun Ambavat	12-Dec-19	17553	Noida
83	11129431	Arun Ambavat	5-Mar-20	18766	Noida
84	8328788	Subhash Ramdas	24-Jul-19	8660	Noida
85	8265709	Suresh Prasad	18-Jul-19	11003	Noida
86	8794564	Prince Rana	9-Sep-19	11183	Noida
87	8317200	Subhash R	24-Jul-19	8278	Noida
88	9347815	Rahul Gautam	25-Oct-19	10935	Noida- Sector 110
89	10961957	Sudhir Bhati	20-Feb-20	46826	Noida- Sector 110
90	12352464	Rahul Manjuralam	4-Sep-20	12163	Noida- Sector 110
91	5031235	Anil Tanwar	13-Aug-18	7670	Noida- Sector 110

The auction shall be conducted on an "AS IS WHERE" and "AS IS WHAT IT" basis and the Company is not making and shall not make any representation or warranties as regards the quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments. It shall be the sole and absolute responsibility of the potential purchaser to verify, examine and satisfy themselves about the quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments prior to placing their bid and for such purpose it shall be open to potential purchasers to examine, at their sole cost and expense, and at the address set out herein above, the said gold ornaments whether with or without expert advice 45 minutes prior to the time stipulated for the conduct of the auction. All the bids shall be subjected to such minimum reserve price as the company may deem fit to fix in this regard. The auction process and sale (if any) pursuant to such auction shall be subjected to such further terms and condition as the company may at sole discretion deem fit to impose.

If the borrower(s) mentioned above pays the amount due to the Company in terms of the loan agreement in his individual loan account in full before the auction as mentioned above, the pledged ornaments securing the said loan may be withdrawn from the said auction without further notice. Please note that it is the absolute discretionary power of the undersigned authorized officer of the company to either postpone or to cancel the auction proceeding without prior notice and without assigning any reason thereof and to reject any or all the bids or offer without assigning any reason for the same.

Place : DELHI Date : 09-02-2021 Authorised Officer (HDB Financial Services Ltd)

UP Govt's 'Mera Ghar, Mera Vidyalaya' scheme is a winner

Varanasi: The 'Mera Ghar Mera Vidyalaya' (mohalla class) scheme introduced in Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh is now becoming a role model for the whole country.

This scheme by the Uttar Pradesh Basic Education Department was started from the Sewapuri block in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's constituency and is proving to be so popular that parents are giving it preference over convent schools. The scheme was launched in 2020 during the Covid-19 pandemic when all schools and educational institutions were shut.

The state government came up with an initiative of 'Mera Ghar Mera Vidyalaya' as an attempt to facilitate learning through ancient Gurukul residential style of teaching.

Varanasi Basic Shiksha Adhikari, Rakesh Kumar Singh, said, "The scheme was started with an aim to provide a school-like environment at home through digital means. Since the launching of the scheme, teachers and staffers of the schools have been delivering books and study material to the children. It is being received well by the students and parents alike." **IANS**

Gujarat's Waghodia MLA issues 'death threat' to journalist

Gandhinagar: A BJP legislator from Waghodia in Gujarat, Madhu Shrivastav, on Monday again courted controversy as he was caught on camera while openly issuing death threat to an electronic media reporter when the latter asked uncomfortable questions.

"Ask questions in a straight manner. Why are you acting smart? I am telling you I'll get you killed by my men," Shrivastav threatened Gujarati news channel 'Mantavya News' reporter Amit Thakor on camera. Shrivastav, known as 'dabang' politician, has in the past also allegedly misbehaved with journalists a couple of times and issued similar death threats, but got away as no complaints were lodged against him. Gujarat BJP chief CR Patil said: "We will check what happened and confirm it first (before reacting)."

Shrivastav was also accused of threatening Vadodara voters at a rally in Waghodia area in Vadodara on April 3, 2019 if they didn't vote for the BJP in the Lok Sabha elections.

The election authorities had even issued a show-cause notice to him for alleged violation of the Model Code of Conduct. <



www.dailypioneer.com

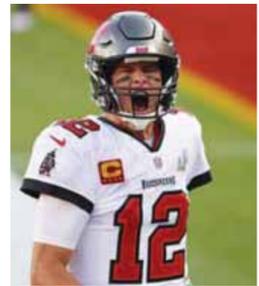
facebook.com/dailypioneer | @TheDailyPioneer | instagram.com/dailypioneer/

PAPER WITH PASSION

Seven rings

Indians may not know much about American athlete Tom Brady. They should

Thomas Edward Patrick Brady Junior, a boy from California who just about got selected to a team back in 2000, plays in one of the most violent sports in the world. We may not follow "American" football as we call the game played by the National Football League (NFL) in India, because football is football and not "soccer" as the Americans call it, almost derisively. Yet, we think of "American football" derisively ourselves; after all, the players are kitted out in protective gear and pads. Yet, if you have ever watched a game of America's most popular sport, the level of violence in the game is astonishing and while that has been brought down by a significant amount, as far as popular contact sports go, American football is not far removed from actual fighting. So much so that the career duration of an average player in the sport lasts even less than four years. So, to play a sport like this for over two decades and be not only a constant in American pop culture but also have the ability to keep winning is remarkable. The Super Bowl is America's top sporting event: It is the one event that stops the entire country in its tracks, where families sit together and watch grown men pile into each other and put their bodies (and minds) on the line playing a violent sport.



Tom Brady has been doing it for 20 years, he has been to the pinnacle of this sport, the Super Bowl, an astounding 10 times and, after last night's game, has won it an incredible seven times, more than any other franchise. This, after leaving the team that he played for two decades and joining a new outfit in the midst of a pandemic with little time to adjust to new coaches, styles and teammates. And, do keep it in mind, with a strict salary cap in place, the NFL is on the face of it, one of the most equitable major sporting leagues in the world. A lot more equitable than large European football leagues such as the English Premier League and Spain's La Liga. Yet there appears to be one constant, Tom Brady. We Indians may not follow the NFL or really care about it, and might even be puzzled when our American colleagues and friends talk about Tom Brady (or "TB12" as he is branded) and how he is the "Greatest Of All Time" or GOAT as the American sports media calls him. Yes, Tom Brady is a big deal and a good sports fan should not just know about Brady but respect and celebrate his achievements over the past two decades, even if they follow the NFL and may not like Brady's habit of always winning.

PICTALK



A visitor closely observes an orangutan at a zoo in Vienna, Austria

AP

Caution!

Whether human-made or natural, the Chamoli tragedy is another reminder to be on the right side of nature

Whether anthropogenic or natural, the latest catastrophe in Uttarakhand proves that Mother Nature does whatever it takes to maintain its balance. Time and again, the mighty nature tries to restore its equilibrium which has undoubtedly been disturbed by a range of human activity like mining and building dams, hydroelectric projects, roads and so on, all leading to pollution and global warming. It's ironic that the "climate change" debate occupies the centre stage only in the aftermath of such calamities. Why do we always wait for nature to wreak havoc to revisit our climate commitments? We seem to have learnt hardly anything from similar catastrophes, the last being the 2013 flash flood that killed more than 5,500 people, except strengthening our disaster response mechanism. It is like emphasising on damage control rather than finding sustainable answers to the existing climate crisis. The governments across the world should keep in mind that coordinated and sincere efforts are needed to live in harmony with nature, and all our attempts to overpower it will eventually prove counterproductive. We cannot win over nature but we can surely win it over. It would not be wise to pass the blame on any one country or continent as, when it comes to nature, we all swim or sink together.

The latest tragedy has unnerved environmental scientists as it happened on a clear winter day. The Defence Research and Development Organisation is investigating but has not been able to determine the exact cause that triggered the glacier burst near Raini village in Chamoli district. It resulted in the sudden rise of water which washed away the under-construction Rishi Ganga hydel project and damaged the Dhauliganga hydel project. At least 202 people are missing, with the number expected to rise, and 18 bodies recovered. Meanwhile, the total Budget allocation for the five autonomous institutes under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has been reduced. However, the Government cannot be held responsible as the slashing of environmental allocations was done in the backdrop of making provisions to counter the Coronavirus pandemic. Certainly, COVID-19 or the reduction in budgetary allocations cannot be blamed for what happened in Uttarakhand. It is definitely a failure on the part of successive governments, global organisations and institutes, besides the lack of synchronised efforts to deal with climate change. Merely levying the carbon cess, especially on the poor nations, will hardly serve any purpose. We must make sincere efforts before yet another calamity hits us.

Tragi-comedy in the Capital

The farmers' protest that went out of hand on Republic Day reminds one of similar demonstrations in Bengal, especially in the pre-Independence era



PRAFULL GORADIA

The agitators had asked for a tractor rally on Republic Day last month. Most governments would have refused permission (as it was a day of constitutional celebration) and, perhaps, offered a date before or after January 26. To the delight of some agitators and to the surprise of others, the Government accepted the idea, subject to police discipline. No one, it would seem, suspected the dangers pregnant in the tractor *tamasha*, namely the hooligan babies and the enormity of the damage they could lead to the cause. The day witnessed the worst rioting one could have seen or imagined except that not a drop of blood was shed; one death was of a tractor driver involved in an accident. For the farmers, the rally was the low point of their two-month struggle for the cause as demonstrated on the chilly highways around Delhi. For the Government, it was an unexpected bonanza.

Only the Left Front could enact comedy on the streets of Calcutta (now Kolkata) whenever its ruling Government called a protest bandh, against whom no one knew, although it was impeccably enforced. Not a bird flew near any of the many streets in the city. Press was free to move, so I moved about; the boys at street corners guarding the bandh were often keen to be interviewed and photographed. It was a comedy for all those citizens who enjoyed a holiday but a sarco-comedy for the poor in the unorganised sector. The rickshawallas, taxi drivers, bus operators, mutias or coolies et al had to go without wages. When I asked a boy at a street corner about it, his reply was that these men do not belong to our unions, what do we owe them? Working class was an expression too distant for the boy.

The most tragic rioting that Calcutta ever witnessed was between August 16 and 18, 1946. It was an attempt by MA Jinnah to convince London that Hindus and Muslims could not coexist, hence the Partition. I quote briefly from the official



letter of the Bengal Governor to the Secretary of State:

"The scale of rioting was unprecedented. It was a pogrom between two rival armies of the Calcutta underworld. The fact that over 2,000 persons of the goonda type who had been confined under the Defence of India Rules during the war were released the previous year is of great significance. The only thing which prevented a complete collapse of the administration was the three battalions of British troops, who were readily available for this sort of emergency. Though the occasion and nature of the emergency could not be foreseen, the Army Commander and I had long agreed on the necessity of such a disposition of troops. I could not possibly have held Calcutta with the police alone, and I am doubtful if Indian troops would have inspired sufficient confidence. That the infection did not spread immediately to the districts is a fact for which we cannot be too thankful. We had to take a big chance in denuding Howrah and the mill areas of troops on the 17th.

The obligations of the Constitution made my task far harder. My special responsi-



FOR THE FARMERS, THE TRACTOR RALLY WAS THE LOW POINT OF THEIR TWO-MONTH STRUGGLE FOR THE CAUSE AS DEMONSTRATED ON THE CHILLY HIGHWAYS AROUND DELHI. FOR THE GOVERNMENT, IT WAS AN UNEXPECTED BONANZA.

bility for law and order is not a 'discretionary' matter and, in handling the situation, particularly at the outset, I had always to consider the susceptibilities of my Ministry. The dual personality of Suhrawardy, as Chief Minister (in charge of the Home portfolio) and as the most influential member of the Muslim League in Bengal, was a constant embarrassment. Yours sincerely, FJ Burrows

CC: Lord Wavell, Viceroy"

What was an even more tragic event, although bloodlessly, was the partition of Bengal in 1905. The idea was not new, it was bubbling since, say, 1875. By dividing Bengal on communal lines and encouraging Muslim ascendancy in the east, the Government was, in Risley's words, weakening "a solid body of opponents" to the Raj. Viceroy Curzon was presented with hundreds of petitions, which he chose to ignore. Bengal united is a power; Bengal divided will pull several different ways. The summer of 1905 was a long, hot one in Bengal and the atmosphere was charged with tension. The editor of a leading daily had condemned the partition. Overnight,

emotions had risen to fever pitch. People refused to participate in festivities where foreign salt or sugar was used. The giant was stirring and even the Viceroy was forced to admit "the spectacle that has been presented by the streets of Calcutta during the past fortnight has not in my opinion been creditable to the Capital of a great Empire".

October 16, the day of the tragedy, became a turning point in British India's history. The announcement of partition shattered the long, legendary belief in the eventual fairness of the British. It became a day of national mourning. No food was cooked in Calcutta's homes, the domestic hearths remained unlit. Shops and offices were closed and, in several places, newspapers were not distributed. Poet Rabindranath's song, "Banglar mati Banglar jai", thrilled patriotic sentiments to an all-time high and the ball had been set rolling for a mass Raksha Bandhan ceremony. Virtual strangers stopped each other on the streets to tie the *rakhi* thread, symbolising brotherhood.

(The writer is a well-known columnist and an author. The views expressed are personal.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TIME TO PROMOTE TOURISM IN J&K

Sir— This refers to the editorial 'Reconnected' (February 8). Truly speaking, curtailing the high-speed internet in Jammu and Kashmir is like paralysing the Union Territory and widening the rift between people and the Government. The administration has done the right thing by restoring 4G services across the UT as it will prove to be a milestone in reinstating confidence among the residents who will start believing that the Government cares about its people.

The people of the valley have always been at the receiving end in the Government's fight against terrorism. Their lives have been ruined, businesses demolished, studies interrupted and they have been thrown into gloom and darkness. However, the recent step of the Government will help in healing their wounds up to some extent, if not fully. The people of J&K have witnessed violence and bloodshed due to the cross-border terrorism and the presence of boots on the ground.

The Government must also make attempts to develop the tourism sector in the UT. The tourism industry in J&K has faced a severe blow after the erstwhile State was scrapped of its special status and two UTs were carved out of it—J&K and Ladakh. Further, Coronavirus pandemic also delivered a deadly blow to it. J&K is now on the path of development and progress.

Azhar A Khan | Rampur

ADDRESS THE POST-COVID CHALLENGES

Sir— Scientists across the world are trying their best to come up with more vaccines against Coronavirus. The good thing is that an inoculation drive has started all over the world, with India supplying its indigenous vaccines to many countries across the globe. India has emerged as a leader in the true sense. However, the threat from the pandemic is not over yet as the virus is coming up with new strains against which there are no vaccines developed yet.

Sasikala can be a game changer



K Sasikala, who has returned to Tamil Nadu for the first time since her release on January 27 after four-year jail term for corruption, still enjoys huge support from the masses. It is evident from the fact that when her convoy entered the State, with the AIADMK flag on her car despite the party's warning against its use by non-members, her supporters showered flowers and danced in celebration. No doubt, Chief

Minister Edappadi Karuppa Palaniswami and his deputy O Panneerselvam are political veterans; but Sasikala, having spent most of her life closely watching astute political moves and manoeuvres of late Jayalalitha, can prove to be more than a match for the seasoned duo. The CM has displayed his frayed nerves by ordering the closure of the Jayalalitha's memorial for "repair" as he was apprehensive that Sasikala might play the emotional card in the Assembly elections. One does not need to be a political pundit to predict that Sasikala's party will have a bearing on the AIADMK's vote bank. Though her party lost out to the AIADMK on the issue of the "two leaves" symbol, nobody is willing to take her lightly. There is every possibility that she might emerge as a kingmaker or even a king in an uncertain political game if people vote for a hung Assembly. Her prospects are not weak but rather bright in politics. TN voters are vulnerable to emotions that tug at their heartstrings.

Ganapathi Bhat | Akola

It's not hard to imagine the plight the world will go through if the virus starts mutating fast into new virulent strains. It's hard to develop vaccines against every new mutant. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has already cautioned the nations to beware of more such deadly pandemics crossing the path of humanity in the future. The health problems faced by people who are cured of COVID are another issue that needs our attention. The complex forms of illness and its psychological impact is enough to ruin not only individual life but the life of generations to come. Early diagnostics, care and treatment are essential to fight such psychological illness. Further, long-term effects of COVID-19 are still unknown as the symptoms of post-COVID syndrome are diverse.

M Pradyu | Kanpur

DEAL WITH CLIMATE CRISIS SINCERELY

Sir— The recent calamity in Uttarakhand, in which many people have died, points out towards our lack-

adaisical approach in dealing with the climate crisis. If the Governments across the world and organisations of global repute are serious about the damages that are inflicted on environment, they must take some concrete action rather than just chalking out five or 10-year plans which are of no use.

Huge amounts are wasted almost every year in organising big conferences and seminars to discuss global warming and ill effects of climate change but the situation has largely remained unchanged. Private organisations and NGOs make huge money working for the environment and climate change. It is public money and Governments should be very careful about how and where it is spent. Merely levying the carbon tax on poor nations will not serve any purpose. It's time to make concerted efforts.

P Senthil | Mumbai

SOUND BITE

A new type of people have popped up in the country, they are "Andolan jivi". Protest is their life source and they can be spotted at each protest site, be it on anything.



Prime Minister
—Narendra Modi

In order to consolidate the Nepal-India ties in a cordial manner, we had to print the map and talk to India. Our relations could turn cordial by only returning our territory through dialogue.

Nepal PM
—KP Sharma Oli

As a person I am extremely opinionated and vocal. I have grown up with the internet and for me, expressing myself online comes very naturally.

Actor
—Maanvi Gargoo

Deeply pained by the loss of lives in Uttarakhand. Would like to donate my match fee for the rescue efforts and would urge more people to help out.

Cricketer
—Rishabh Pant

The main reason for the deteriorating air quality in the national Capital in the months of September to November is stubble burning in Haryana and Punjab.

Union Environment Minister
—Prakash Javadekar

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com



FIRST COLUMN

A NEW CHAPTER HAS BEGUN

South Block believes that Indo-US relations will be strengthened further with the Biden Administration



KALYANI SHANKAR

President Joe Biden has brought cheer to Indians working in the US with his liberalised immigration policy. For many Indians, especially those in the Information Technology (IT) sector, working in the US is a cherished dream. One of the most significant policy reliefs for India under the Biden Administration is a liberalised work visa regime for immigrants. The importance of it can be gauged by the fact that whenever Indian leaders met their US counterparts, the immigration policy was one of the topics discussed as during the Donald Trump regime, immigration, trade and human rights remained sore issues. The former President made it difficult for immigrants to enter the US and on trade issues, too, he was not willing to concede. However, Indo-US ties thrived at other levels during the Trump Administration.

On the other hand, fulfilling his campaign promise, Biden sent a comprehensive Immigration Bill to the US Congress on his first day in office. The US Citizenship Act, 2021, statement eliminates the per-country cap for job-based green cards, among other relief measures. The Bill also proposes to grant legal status and a path to citizenship to about 11 million undocumented immigrants, including 1.7 million Indians. The new visa regime will help US tech companies like Apple, Google and Microsoft recruit many IT professionals from India.



The new Bill also clears immigration backlogs and makes it easier for students in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields to study and stay in the US. It also increases the diversity visa programme from 55,000 visas to 80,000 per year. Despite doubts in South Block, Biden has been a supporter of India all through. Even as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and later as Vice-President, Biden supported New Delhi. He also endorsed the Indo-US Nuclear Bill in 2008. In any case, there is bipartisan support for India from both Republicans and Democrats. Experts believe that right from battling with COVID-19 to re-building the shattered economy, the Biden regime will help India.

Biden has a much broader vision of the role of the Indo-American community. Courting the diaspora during the presidential campaign, Biden said, "Our Government will reflect the diversity of the US and Indian American voices will be included in shaping the policies that impact their communities." He also came up with a unique policy paper on Indian Americans, the first time any presidential hopeful ever did. True to his promise, Biden has nominated at least 20 Americans of Indian origin, including 13 women, to key positions in his Administration. New Delhi has been watching the change of regime closely and the new administration has already sent positive signals.

Key US officials have begun talking to their Indian counterparts in the last two weeks. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar spoke with US Secretary of State Antony J Blinken, reiterating their strategic partnership commitment. The US sees a significant role for India in countering China. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh assured the new US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin about strengthening military ties. The two sides have pledged to work closely on other areas like terrorism, maritime security, cyber security, peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region. While the Biden Administration has sent positive vibes, Democrats will closely scrutinise the Modi Government's handling of minorities, tensions in Kashmir and alleged violations of human rights. However, experts say that criticism, if any, might be nuanced now that Biden is in office. Diplomacy between the two countries has come a long way in the last two decades, particularly after the liberalisation of the Indian economy. South Block believes that Indo-US ties will be strengthened further during the Biden Administration.

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

How about reining in food subsidy?

Even as the Govt has mustered courage to give a truthful account of the money it spends on food subsidy, there is nothing on the horizon to indicate that this will be reined in



UTTAM GUPTA

In the Union Budget for 2021-22, Finance Minister (FM) Nirmala Sitharaman has given a pleasant surprise. This has to do with the Government's decision to discontinue with the decades-old practice of so-called "off-Budget liabilities" this time around. "Off-Budget liabilities" is a fancy nomenclature used by governments to denote transfer of certain expenses incurred by the Union Government to the books of its agencies tasked with the implementation of its welfare schemes. This helps the former show lower expenses on its own books, thereby, helping it bring down fiscal deficit to the desired level. A typical case relates to the Food Corporation of India (FCI) through which the Centre administers its mammoth programme of delivering food subsidy. Under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), over 800 million beneficiaries receive food grains, primarily wheat, rice and coarse cereals, at the heavily subsidised price of ₹2, ₹3 and ₹1 per kg, respectively, which is a fraction of the cost of procurement, handling and distribution.

The task is performed by the FCI on behalf of the Government, which reimburses the shortfall in realisation from sale *vis-à-vis* the cost to the former. Termed as food subsidy, reimbursement to the FCI is solely the liability of the Centre and is paid from the Union Budget.

If any given year the reimbursement amount due to the FCI is say "X", the Government decides not to release a portion of this and merely keeps it pending (the extant method of accounting on cash basis i.e. expenses are recorded when actual payments are made helps it to do this). To keep its operations going, the agency borrows the "unpaid amount" from the banks or any other source. These borrowings plus interest accrued remain on the books of the FCI.

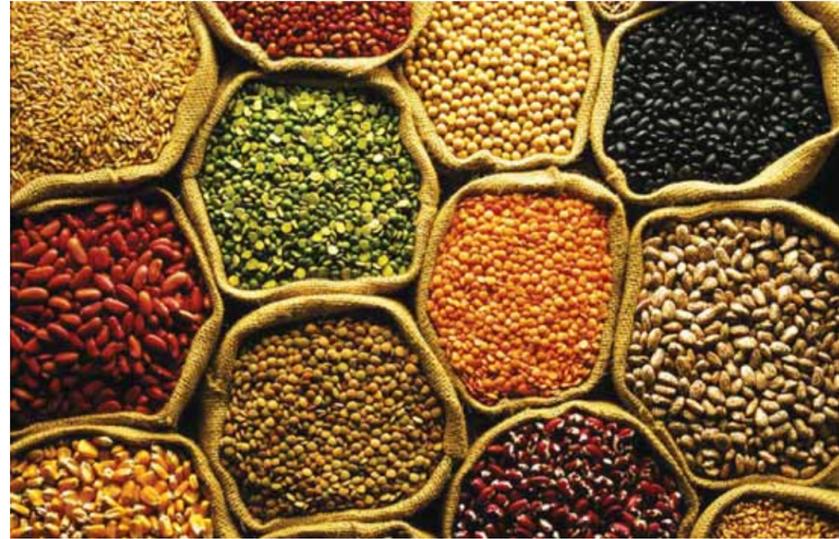
This disingenuous mechanism may help the Centre show that it is sticking to the fiscal consolidation road map. But this gives a misleading picture of the Government's finances and makes it complacent with regard to the dire need for bringing about genuine and sustainable reduction in expenses. It also affects the financial health of the agency implementing welfare schemes. In recent years, ballooning unpaid dues forced the FCI to borrow from the National Small Savings Fund (NSSF). In 2016-17, when the former started borrowing from the latter, the Centre had committed to releasing subsidy arrears to enable the FCI to pay back the loans in subsequent years. But that was not to be, as subsidy arrears kept mounting and the FCI continued borrowing increasingly from the NSSF. As on March 31, 2020, it owed a staggering ₹3,00,000 crore to the fund.

In the Budget for 2020-21, Sitharaman had estimated the requirement of food subsidy to be ₹2,53,000 crore. Add to this the cost of free food given (in the wake of the pandemic) to 800 million beneficiaries under the NFSA as also to migrant labour during April-November, 2020. The total requirement comes to ₹4,22,000 crore. Against this, the Budget support was only ₹1,26,000 crore (Budgetary Expenditure ₹1,16,000 crore plus ₹10,000 crore given by way of supplementary grant). This would have led to an uncovered gap of close to ₹3,00,000 crore. Under a business as usual scenario, the FCI would



NOW, IN VIEW OF THE FARMERS DEMANDING A LAW ON GUARANTEEING THE MSP AND IF IT IS ENACTED, THIS WILL DASH WHATEVER LITTLE HOPE REMAINS FOR LAUNCHING DBT. THIS IS BECAUSE THEN THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE LEGALLY BOUND TO PURCHASE ALL CROPS (FOR WHICH THE MSP IS NOTIFIED) AND THE ENTIRE QUANTITY THAT FARMERS OFFER TO SELL

The writer is a New Delhi-based policy analyst. The views expressed are personal.



have borrowed ₹3,00,000 crore from the NSSF. However, doing a turnaround, in the Revised Estimate (RE) for 2020-21, the FM has paid all of the food subsidy dues ₹4,22,000 crore from the Budget. In other words, the Government has taken all of the expenses under this head on its balance sheet. The allocation for 2021-22 at ₹2,42,000 crore is also more or less close to the likely requirement.

This means that even during next year, there won't be any unpaid dues. Furthermore, considering that the FM has substantially relaxed the Fiscal Deficit trajectory to reach 4.5 per cent by 2025-26 (instead of 2.5 per cent in 2022-23 as per the NK Singh Committee on review of Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management), thereby implying a good cushion, one would expect the Government to maintain its altered stance even beyond 2021-22. This is welcome as it will bring transparency and bolster the credibility of Budget numbers. But, this alone won't suffice.

There is an urgent need to tackle the fundamental factors behind the ballooning food subsidy, like the ridiculously low price of food—almost scratching the surface—supplied to beneficiaries under the NFSA; the disproportionately high number of beneficiaries that is pegged at a whopping 800 million (who will believe India has such a large number of poor); inef-

iciency in the Public Distribution System (PDS) and rampant misuse of subsidy. This is where almost every Government has failed.

In early 2015, a committee under senior BJP leader Shanta Kumar had recommended a cut in the number of those eligible for subsidised food from 67 per cent to 40 per cent and restricting the benefit of ₹1/2/3 per kg only to the poorest of the poor under the 'Antyodaya Anna Yojana', while increasing the supply to seven kg per person. Others should pay 50 per cent of the Minimum Support Price (MSP) paid to farmers. Those recommendations were quietly ignored.

The NFSA that came into force in 2013 provided for the sale price at ₹1/2/3 per kg to continue for a period of three years only. Thereafter, even as there was no bar on increasing the price, the Government decided not to go for it. Far from that, in 2017, Ram Vilas Paswan the then Union Minister for Consumer Affairs had declared that there would not be any increase in the price for three years.

In the *Economic Survey* for 2019-20, the Chief Economic Adviser (CEA), Krishnamurthy Venkata Subramanian had recommended some reduction in food subsidy by limiting the scheme's coverage and increasing the issue price of food grains which he has reiterated in the *Economic Survey* for 2020-21. The

Government has not paid heed to his advice.

The Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) of subsidy is a foolproof mechanism for helping poor consumers as was amply demonstrated in the case of LPG. It involves putting money in the account of beneficiaries who in turn, can use it to buy food from wherever they choose. The DBT has been on the Government's radar since 2012-13; yet all that we see are a few pilot projects being run in some districts.

Now, in view of the farmers demanding a law on guaranteeing the MSP and if it is enacted, this will dash whatever little hope remains for launching DBT. This is because then the Government will be legally bound to purchase all crops (for which the MSP is notified) and the entire quantity that farmers offer to sell. In other words, the current system of procurement albeit at MSP and selling to beneficiaries at the subsidised price will stay. This implies, that DBT will be off the table as a subsidy can't be given twice over, first by supplying food at a subsidised price and then by transferring the cash to the beneficiary's account.

To conclude, even as the Government has mustered courage to give a truthful account of the money it spends on food subsidy, there is nothing on the horizon to indicate that this will be reined-in. There is no dearth of prescriptions; but the irony is no one in the political class has the gumption to act.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

EMPLOYEES OF THE MCD ARE STARVING BECAUSE THEY HAVE NOT BEEN PAID SALARIES, WHILE BJP LEADERS ARE USING FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRIPS. —AAP LEADER DURGESH PATHAK



THE ALLEGATIONS ARE BASELESS. IT IS AN ATTEMPT BY THE AAP TO MALIGN THE IMAGE OF BJP-RULED MCDs. —DELHI BJP PRESIDENT ADESH GUPTA

Climate change, Govt apathy scripted the glacial burst

The people of Chamoli and environmentalists had long been protesting against the setting up of two hydel projects which severely compromised the ecology of the region

On a calm Sunday morning, the sound of gushing water stirred fear in the minds and hearts of the people of Chamoli district in Uttarakhand as it reminded them of the fateful day in 2013 when a deluge took hundreds of lives, rendered many homeless and devastated the State.

The huge volume of water and mud flowing towards the under-construction Rishi Ganga Hydel Project confirmed the worst fears of the local people who watched helplessly as nearly 40 labourers at the Rishi Ganga and Dhauri Ganga dam sites came under the swathe of the colossal deluge consisting of water, muck and debris.

The death toll by Monday evening climbed to 18, while 27 were rescued and over 200 were feared missing or dead, with 30-35 feared trapped in a tunnel at the Tapovan-Vishnugad project.



KOTA SRIRAJ

The writer is an environmental journalist. The views expressed are personal.

These figures would have been much more had the incident not taken place on a Sunday, which is a weekend and the number of labourers in attendance is thin.

The magnitude of the disaster can be gauged by the fact that the glacial burst caused sudden flood and avalanche in the Dhauri Ganga, Rishi Ganga and Alaknanda rivers totally devastating the National Thermal Power Corporation's (NTPC's) Tapovan-Vishnugad hydel project and the Rishi Ganga Hydel Project. It's unfortunate that scientists failed to predict the catastrophe even though it was a disaster waiting to happen.

The people of Chamoli district and environmentalists had long been protesting against the setting up of the two hydel projects which have severely compromised the ecology of the region.

In 2019 the people of Raini village, who have been deeply impacted by the latest tragedy had filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in the Uttarakhand High Court against the construction of the hydel project, citing damage to the environment as the main reason. The project site in Raini village area falls under the Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve, just a few kilometres from the Nanda Devi National Park.

Considering its impact on the environment and the local community owing to the blasting and stone crushing activities, the High Court stayed blasting in the project area till further orders and constituted a panel under the Chamoli District Magistrate and Member Secretary of the State Pollution Control Board to inspect the Rishi Ganga Hydroelectric Project site.

However, as the project



progressed, the huge pile of muck was not disposed as per environmental norms and, as a result, it came gushing down with the flood waters creating havoc.

The Government and courts must realise that appointing committees and delaying the environmental impact assessment report of any project is nothing short of playing with the environment and people's lives. Sunday's disaster has

proved the same beyond doubt. Apart from scant regard shown for environmental norms and laws by the Government, climate change too, had a major role to play in the recent disaster.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) *Special Report on Oceans and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate* (SROCC) reveals that climate change has triggered global warming which in turn has altered the frequency and magnitude of natural hazards leading to adverse events such as the breaking off of a portion of the Nanda Devi glacier on Sunday.

According to the HIMAP assessment report facilitated by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), temperatures are rising in the Hindu Kush Himalayan (HKH) region and the rise in global tempera-

ture will have more impact in the Himalayan region due to elevation-dependent warming. If the world can keep the temperature rise to below 1.5°Celsius, in the HKH region it would translate to at least a rise of 1.8°C, and in some places, above 2.2°C.

The Himalayan region, which has an ultra-delicate ecology, is least monitored given the difficult geographical terrain and is susceptible to the increased risk of unforeseen extreme weather events such as glacial bursts. As per estimates there are 8,000 lakes in the Himalayas, of which 200 are classified as dangerous, and as mountain slopes are impacted by glacier retreat and permafrost thaw due to rising temperatures, the lakes become unstable and populated regions in the foothills become highly vulnerable to extreme weather events.

The rising heat in the

Himalayas is also attributable to the excess use of concrete in structures such as dams and residential buildings. These structures radiate heat and contribute to the spike in ambient temperatures. There is an urgent need to make a shift to traditional building materials such as stone and wood in order to dial down the vulnerability to climate change and also put hydel power projects under restricted category. In addition to this the Government must also set up more high altitude monitoring stations so that the health of the Himalayas is correctly gauged. This in turn will enable better adaptation practices.

The Uttarakhand glacier burst has revealed the consequences of human apathy towards the environment and climate change. The end result is loss of human lives, ruined nature and, as usual, no lessons learnt.



A police truck sprays water at a crowd of protesters in Naypyitaw, Myanmar on Monday

Martial law declared in parts of Myanmar

Water fired at crowd as anti-coup protests swell

Yangon: Martial law was declared in parts of Myanmar's second largest city Mandalay Monday, after hundreds of thousands rallied across the country against the coup and the military issued a stern warning against further protests.

The orders cover seven townships in Mandalay, banning people from protesting or gathering in groups of more than five, and a curfew will run from 8 pm until 4 am, the general administration department said in a statement.

A similar declaration has been made in a township in Ayeerwaddy further south and announcements concerning other localities are expected to trickle out tonight.

"This order is applied until

further notice," one Mandalay township statement said.

"Some people... are behaving in a worrying way that can harm the safety of public and law enforcement. Such behaviours can affect stability, safety of people, law enforcement, and peaceful existence of villages and could create riots, that's why this order bans gathering, speaking in public, protest by using vehicles, rallies," the statement said.

The junta has so far refrained from using deadly force against the demonstrations sweeping most of the country, but with pressure building riot police fired water cannon in an attempt to disperse thousands gathered in Naypyidaw.

The military last week detained Suu Kyi and dozens of other members of her National League for Democracy party, ending a decade of partial civilian rule and triggering

international condemnation.

In the face of an increasingly bold wave of defiance, state broadcaster MRTV warned that opposition to the junta was unlawful and signalled a potential crackdown.

"Action must be taken according to the law with effective steps against offences which disturb, prevent and destroy the state's stability, public safety and the rule of law," said a statement read by an announcer on the channel.

Tens of thousands of people overcame a nationwide internet blockade to rally over the weekend in the first major outpourings of opposition to the coup.

The movement built on Monday, with protests across the country and the start of a nationwide strike. In Yangon, the nation's commercial capital, crowds spilt onto the city's main roads, immobilising traffic and dwarfing the previous day's rally.

Aus demands Myanmar release detained Australian

Canberra: Australia has demanded Myanmar immediately release an Australian adviser to Aung San Suu Kyi's government who was detained in a military coup, an official said on Monday.

Economic policy adviser Sean Turnell had told friends via social media that he was detained but he has been out of contact in recent days.

"We have called for the immediate release of Australian citizen Prof. Sean Turnell from detention," Foreign Minister Marise Payne said.

The Australian Embassy in Myanmar had been providing Turnell with "extensive support during this ordeal," she said.

Turnell's friend and fellow Myanmar expert Monique Skidmore said she believed the Macquarie University economics professor had been detained because of his close relationships with ousted leader Suu Kyi and other senior members of her National League for Democracy party.

Trump impeachment trial to open with sense of urgency, speed

Washington: Donald Trump's historic second impeachment trial is opening this week with a sense of urgency — by Democrats who want to hold the former president accountable for the violent US Capitol siege and Republicans who want it over as fast as possible.



resulted in Trump's acquittal a year ago on charges that he privately pressured Ukraine to dig up dirt on a Democratic rival, Joe Biden, now the president.

This time, Trump's Jan. 6 rally cry to "fight like hell" and

the storming of the Capitol played out for the world to see. While Trump very well could be acquitted again, the trial could be over in half the time.

Details of the proceedings are still being negotiated by the Senate leaders, with the duration of opening arguments, senators' questions and deliberations all up for debate.

So far, it appears there will be few witnesses called, as the prosecutors and defense attor-

neys speak directly to senators who have been sworn to deliver "impartial justice" as jurors. Most are also witnesses to the siege, having fled for safety that day as the rioters broke into the Capitol and temporarily halted the electoral count certifying Biden's victory.

Defense attorneys for Trump declined a request for him to testify. Holed up at his Mar-a-Lago club, the former president has been silenced on

social media by Twitter without public comments since leaving the White House. Instead, House managers prosecuting the case are expected to rely on the trove of videos from the siege, along with Trump's incendiary rhetoric refusing to concede the election, to make their case. His new defense team has said it plans to counter with its own cache of videos of Democratic politicians making fiery speeches.

S Africa suspends Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine drive

Johannesburg: South Africa has suspended plans to inoculate its front-line health care workers with the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine after a small clinical trial suggested that it isn't effective in preventing mild to moderate illness from the variant dominant in the country.

South Africa received its first 1 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine last week and was expected to begin giving jobs to health care workers in mid-February.

The disappointing early results indicate that an inoculation drive using the AstraZeneca vaccine may not be useful.

Preliminary data from a small study suggested that the AstraZeneca vaccine offers only "minimal protection against mild-moderate disease" caused by the variant in South

Africa. The variant appears more infectious and is driving a deadly resurgence of the disease in the country, currently accounting for more than 90 per cent of the Covid-19 cases, health minister Zweli Mkhize said Sunday night.

"The AstraZeneca vaccine appeared effective against the original strain, but not against the variant," Mkhize said. "We have decided to put a temporary hold on the rollout of the vaccine ... More work needs to be done."

The study, which hasn't yet been peer-reviewed, involved 2,000 people, most of whom were young and healthy. The volunteers' average age was 31.

"Protection against moderate-severe disease, hospitalisation or death could not be assessed in this study as the target population were at such low

risk," said a statement issued by Oxford University and the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg.

Scientists will be studying whether or not the AstraZeneca vaccine is effective in preventing severe disease and death against the variant, Mkhize said.

Other vaccines have shown reduced efficacy against the variant, but have provided good protection from serious disease and death.

Public health officials are concerned about the South Africa variant because it contains a mutation of the virus' characteristic spike protein, which is targeted by existing vaccines. South African officials say the variant is more contagious and evidence is emerging that it may be more virulent.

Govt. of Bihar
Water Resources Department
Office of Executive Engineer
Letter No. - 15
Advance Planning Investigation & Project Preparation Division, Baunsi (Banka).
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)
Name Of Work - TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY of River Ganga for Five consecutive Years From 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 in a length of 505Km from Chausa to Manihari under the geographical area of Bihar State
 2.1.1 Request for Financial Proposal (RFP) along with technical bid is being invited By Executive Engineer, Advance Planning Investigation and Project Preparation Division, Baunsi (Banka) on behalf of Governor of Bihar from Consultants/Firms/Companies/Government organization who are engaged in Survey work as per direction of Water Resources Department, Patna, vide letter no.- 1/PMC/VIVIDH/04/2016 - 658 dated 17.09.2019 and Chief Engineer, Advance Planning Investigation and Project Planning, Water Resources Department, Anisabad, Patna letter no. 1/योजना-सर्वेक्षण-नदी संकेत-02/18-चाट-11-78 Date 29-01-2021.
 1. **Name of Work:** TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY of River Ganga for Five consecutive Years From 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 in a length of 505Km from Chausa to Manihari under the Geographical area of Bihar State".
 2. **Date of sale of RFP:** Request for (Financial) Proposal (RFP) document can be obtained between 10:00 hrs. to 17:00 hrs on all working days from 25-02-2021 To 05-03-2021 from the offices mentioned in Sl. No.-6.
 3. **Date & time of Pre-proposal Conference:** On 08-03-2021 at 01.00 PM in Conference Hall of Chief Engineer, Advance Planning Investigation and Project Planning, W.R.D. Anisabad, Patna.
 4. **Date & time of receiving proposal:** Proposals in sealed envelope containing separate envelopes of Technical Bid and Financial Bid marking as RFP regarding Consultancy Services for TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY of River Ganga for Five consecutive Years From 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 in a length of 505Km from Chausa to Manihari under the geographical area of Bihar State, with the name of Consultant will be received not later than 03:00 pm on 15-03-2021 at the office of Chief engineer, Advance Planning Investigation and Project Planning, W.R.D. Anisabad, Patna.
 5. **Date & time of opening of R.F.P. (Technical Proposal)** The R.F.P. shall be opened at 03:30 pm in the presence of Consultant who choose to be present on 15-03-2021 in the office of the Chief Engineer, Advance Planning Investigation and Project Planning, W.R.D. Anisabad, Patna. In the event of the specified date of RFP opening being declared a holiday, the RFPs will be opened at the appointed time and location on the next working day. Even in the case of absence of the Consultant at the time of opening of proposal, department will proceed ahead with the opening.
 6. **Name of offices selling RFP**
 (i) Executive Engineer, Advance Planning Investigation And Project Preparation Division, Baunsi (Banka) E-mail: ppcdbaunsi@gmail.com, Mob No.- 09431356589
 (ii) Superintending Engineer, Advance Planning Investigation And Project Preparation Circle, Gaya, Mob No.- 08292347456
 (iii) Chief Engineer Advance Planning Investigation and Project Planning, W.R.D. Anisabad, Patna
 7. **Cost of RFP:** The document of Request for Proposal (RFP) can be obtained on payment of non refundable amount of Rs. 10000/- (Ten thousand) only in cash or in the form of Bank draft drawn in favor Of Executive Engineer, Advance Planning Investigation And Project Preparation Division, Baunsi (Banka).
 8. **Earnest Money:** The Consultant shall furnish Earnest Money @ 2% (Rounded in hundred rupees on higher side) of the total combined amount for five years survey work quoted by the firms which must be duly pledged in favor of Executive Engineer, Advance Planning Investigation And Project Preparation Division, Baunsi (Banka) (named as Employer and Engineer in charge) and shall be in any of the following forms or as mentioned in the Bihar Financial Rules:
 a. Indian Post Office Term Deposit 1 Year/ 2 Year/ 3 Year; 8" Issue of 6 years National Saving Certificate duly endorsed by the competent Postal authority of Bihar.
 b. Fixed Deposit Receipt of any Schedule Bank within the State of Bihar and it should be valid at least for six months after last date of receipt of RFP.
 c. 5Years National Development Bond/ State Development Loan Certificate
 d. Un-conditional Bank Guarantee issued from any schedule Indian Bank within the State of Bihar for the work whose amount is more than 01 crore. (If issued from any Bank outside the State of Bihar it will be converted to a Bank Guarantee from any Bank within the State of Bihar before executing the agreement).
 9. **Conditions:**
 i. The Undersigned will not be responsible for any expenditure made by Consultants against taking part in this RFP and for any delay in receiving the R.F.P.
 ii. The undersigned reserves all rights to accept or reject any or all RFP without assigning any reason thereof.
 10. The undersigned reserves the right to extend or cancel the invitation without assigning any reason.
 11. Any other information can be obtained from the offices as mentioned in sl.no.6 of this letter during the office hour.
 For further details please visit website State.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar
 (R.P.Gupta)
 Executive Engineer,
 Advance Planning Investigation And Project Preparation Division
 Baunsi (Banka)
 E-mail: ppcdbaunsi@gmail.com
 PR. No. 012484 (WRD) 2020-21
 नोवल कोरोना के संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी एवं सहायक हेतु Toll Free No.: 104 पर संपर्क कर सकते हैं।

US warns Yemen's Houthi rebels after terrorism delisting

Washington: The Biden administration has warned Yemen's Houthi rebels against ongoing attacks against civilians just 48 hours after moving to strike the group from a terrorism blacklist.

The State Department on Sunday called on the Iran-backed rebel group to immediately stop attacks on civilians and new military operations in Yemen. The demand came only

two days after the administration notified Congress that it would remove the Houthis from its list of "foreign terrorist organisations," a designation that comes with severe U.S. Sanctions. It also came just three days after President Joe Biden ordered an end to U.S. Support for the Saudi-led offensive military operations against the rebels. "As the president is taking steps to end the war in Yemen and Saudi

Arabia has endorsed a negotiated settlement, the United States is deeply troubled by continued Houthi attacks," State Department spokesman Ned Price said in a statement. "We call on the Houthis to immediately cease attacks impacting civilian areas inside Saudi Arabia and to halt any new military offensives inside Yemen, which only bring more suffering to the Yemeni people."

Chinese-Australian reporter accused of spreading secrets

Canberra (Australia): China has formally arrested a Chinese-born Australian journalist for CGTN, the English-language channel of China Central Television, on suspicion of illegally supplying state secrets overseas, Australia's foreign minister said Monday.

The arrest of Cheng Lei last Friday starts an official criminal investigation and came six months after she was detained.

"The Australian government has raised its serious concerns about Ms. Cheng's detention regularly at senior levels, including about her welfare and conditions of detention," Foreign Minister Marise Payne said.

"We expect basic standards of justice, procedural fairness and humane treatment to be met, in accordance with international norms," she added.

China's Foreign Ministry confirmed Cheng's arrest and said her legal rights were being "fully guaranteed."

"We hope that Australia will earnestly respect China's judicial sovereignty and refrain from interfering in China's law-based handling of cases in any way," ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said at a daily briefing.

Israeli PM pleads not guilty as corruption trial resumes



Jerusalem: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pleaded not guilty on Monday as his trial on corruption charges resumed in a Jerusalem courtroom just weeks before national elections in which he hopes to extend his 12-year rule.

Netanyahu was indicted last year for fraud, breach of trust and accepting bribes in three separate cases. In recent months, Israelis have held weekly protests calling on him to resign over the charges and criticising his government's response to the coronavirus crisis.

Japan navy submarine, HK ship collide off Japan coast

Tokyo: A Japanese navy submarine and a commercial ship collided off Japan's southern coast on Monday, causing minor injuries to three crewmembers of the submarine and damage to its mast, defense officials said.

The submarine Soryu was in the process of surfacing about 27 nautical miles (50 kilometers) south of Cape Ashizuri on Japan's southwestern island of Shikoku when it collided with the commercial ship, the Maritime Self-Defense Force said in a statement.

There was slight damage to the submarine's mast but it was able to continue sailing on its own, it said. The navy did not identify the commercial ship, but NHK public television said it was the Hong Kong-registered bulk carrier Ocean Artemis. It was transporting 90,000 tons of iron to Okayama in western Japan after leaving the Chinese port of Qingdao last Friday with 21 Chinese crewmembers, it said. Defense Minister Nobuo Kishi told reporters that the collision was "extremely regrettable."

Immigrants, activists worry Biden won't end Trump barriers

AP ■ HOUSTON

For nearly 17 months, the Trump administration tried to deport the mother and daughter from El Salvador. The Biden administration may finish the job.

They are being held at a family detention center in remote Dilley, Texas, but have repeatedly been on the verge of deportation. The Friday before Christmas, both were driven to the San Antonio airport and put on a plane, only to be pulled off when attorneys working for immigrant advocacy groups filed new appeals.

"I have faith first in God and in the new president who has taken

office, that he'll give us a chance," said the mother, who goes by the nickname "Barbi."

She left behind two other children in El Salvador and asked not to reveal her real name so as not to draw the attention of criminal gangs there.

Barbi's daughter was 8 when they crossed the US Border in August 2019 and will turn 10 in a few weeks. "It's not been easy," she said.

It's unlikely to get easier anytime soon.

President Joe Biden rushed to send the most ambitious overhaul of the nation's immigration system in a generation to Congress and signed

nine executive actions to wipe out some of his predecessor's toughest measures to fortify the U.S.-Mexico border.

But a federal court in Texas suspended his 100-day moratorium on deportations, and the immigration bill is likely to be watered down as lawmakers grapple with major coronavirus pandemic relief bill as well as a second impeachment trial for former President Donald Trump.

Even if Biden gets most of what he wants on immigration, fully implementing the kind of sweeping changes he's promised will take weeks, months — perhaps even years.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
 Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/Traction Distribution, DRM's Office, State Entry Road, New Delhi for & on behalf of President of India, invites open e-tender under single packet system for the under noted work:

1 Name of Work with its location	Replacement /Provision of missing/damaged traction bonds & caution boards over Delhi Division.
2 Approx. Cost of Work	Rs. 57,78,561.75/-
3 Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 0/-
4 E-Tender Bid Online Submission Period	18.02.2021 (00.00 Hrs.) to 04.03.2021 (15:00 Hrs.)
5 E-Tender Bid Submission End Date & E-Tender Open Date & Time	04.03.2021 (15:00 hrs.)
6 Fund Allocation	29366203
7 Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in

E-Tender No.: 25-TRD-NDL-S-2020-21 Dated: 08.02.2021 278/2021
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION
 General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male **Named: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: about 25-30 years, Height: 4' 6", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Wearing: White colour Banian, who was found at E. Pole KM. No. 22/10 Down Line near Bijwasan Railway Station, Delhi. In this regard a case DD No. 8A Dated 05.02.2021 has been registered at P.S. Delhi Cantt. Railway Station, Delhi.**
 Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.
Sd/- SHO
P.S. Delhi Cantt. Railway Station, Delhi
DP/55/RLY/2021 Tel.: 011-25688505

NATIONAL BOOK TRUST, INDIA
 Ministry of Education, Government of India
 Nehru Bhawan, 5 Institutional Area, Phase-II
 Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070

Collaboration
ATAL BIHARI VAJPEYEE HINDI UNIVERSITY
BHOPAL

ONLINE
CERTIFICATE COURSE IN
Book
Publishing

Knowledge Partner: NBT
20 FEB-16 MAY 2021
16 February 2021
Last Date

www.nbtindia.gov.in & www.abvhv.edu.in
 davn-21103/11/0017/2021

Markets scale fresh peaks

Sensex rallies 617 pts to close above 51k-mark

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Extending its winning streak to the sixth session, equity benchmark Sensex rallied 617 points to end above the 51,000-mark for the first time on Monday, tracking strong gains in Infosys, ICICI Bank and Reliance Industries amid a positive trend in global markets. After touching a lifetime high of 51,523.38 during the day, the 30-share BSE index ended 617.14 points or 1.22 per cent higher at its record closing peak of 51,348.77.

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty surged 191.55 points or 1.28 per cent to its lifetime closing high of 15,115.80. It touched an intra-day record of 15,159.90.

Mahindra and Mahindra (M&M) was the top gainer in the Sensex pack, soaring

around 7 per cent, followed by Bajaj Finserv, Bharti Airtel, PowerGrid, Infosys and ICICI Bank. Kotak Bank, Bajaj Finance and ITC were among the laggards. According to Binod Modi, Head-Strategy at Reliance Securities, domestic equities remained in the grip of bulls with benchmark indices extending gains for the sixth consecutive day. "Improved prospects of sustained economic recovery on the backdrop of sharp increase in capital expenditures and bold reform measures have emboldened investors. "While global equities remained favourable today, benchmark index Nifty and Sensex recorded fresh all-time highs," he said. Elsewhere in Asia, bourses in Shanghai, Hong Kong and Tokyo ended with significant gains, while Seoul was in the red.

RBI tightening supervision of largest NBFCs to avoid systemic spillovers: Moody's

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's risk-based internal audit requirement for non-banking finance companies is credit positive, Moody's Investors Service said.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued guidelines for the country's largest non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) to implement a risk-based internal audit framework, in line with banks. The framework requires an NBFC's internal audit function to assess risks independently of its existing risk-management functions.

The requirement is credit positive because it adds another layer of risk monitoring and improves the companies' resilience to unexpected shocks, Moody's said.

The guidelines will apply to all deposit-taking NBFCs or NBFCs with assets of more than Rs 500 billion as of March 31, 2022. The framework's application to the largest NBFCs reflects the RBI's ongoing efforts to strengthen and



harmonise regulatory norms between NBFCs and banks. The NBFC sector has been increasingly important to credit growth in India.

NBFCs' total balance sheet more than doubled to Rs 49 trillion in 2020 from around Rs 20 trillion in 2015. At the same time, banks' exposures to NBFCs have also increased, and according to RBI data, 8.5% of gross bank credit was to NBFCs as of December 2020, compared with 4.8% in December 2016.

Banks have traditionally been subject to stricter regulations and risk controls than NBFCs, creating regulatory arbitrage for NBFCs, even though they provide similar financial services.

Sebi bars Capitalaim Financial Advisory, 5 others from securities market

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Markets regulator Sebi on Monday barred Capitalaim Financial Advisory Pvt Ltd and five individuals from accessing securities market for selling services to clients without consideration of their financial position, investment objective and risk profiling.

The individuals who have been barred are the company's present and former directors - Abhijeet Bajpai, Anant Tiwari, Debabrata Bhattacharjee, Sheetal Foudjar and Abhilasha Verma. As per an interim order of Sebi, Capitalaim and its present directors Bajpai and Tiwari are directed to cease and desist from acting as an investment advisor.

Besides, they have been directed not to divert any funds raised from the investors.

Also, the regulator has directed them to immediately withdraw and remove all advertisements, representations, communications in relation to its investment advisory activity or any other activity in the securities market.

The interim direction comes after the regulator prima facie found Capitalaim and individuals in violation of PFUTP (Prohibition of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade Practices) norms as well as Investment Advisor (IA) regulations.

A probe by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) found that Capitalaim was selling products and services to its clients without communicating the risk profile to them. Further it was observed that Capitalaim was charging fees from clients which is disproportionate of their annual income and selling same services or packages to same clients on multiple occasion at different arbitrary price for future period / overlapping period, while an existing subscription is still active, which has the effect of locking in the client to the Investment Advisor, as IA has "no refund and cancellation" policy. It had charged different arbitrary advisory fees from the same and different clients, Sebi noted.

Domestic air travel contracts 41% in Jan

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Domestic air travel demand contracted by 41 per cent year-on-year to around 76 lakh passengers in January with sequential growth also slowing down to 3.5 per cent during the month over December 2020, a report said on Monday.

Indian carriers had flown a total of 1.27 crore passengers on domestic routes in January 2020.

Indian aviation industry has witnessed a continued recovery in domestic passenger traffic in January 2021. However, the pace of growth slowed down in the reporting month, with a sequential growth (over December 2020) of around 3.5 per cent to around 76 lakh passengers, rating agency Ica said in a release.

On a y-o-y basis, however, domestic passenger traffic declined by around 41 per cent in January over the same month of 2020, it added.

The capacity deployment in the previous month at around 71 per cent is a significant

increase over the 59 per cent capacity deployed in November last year and around 67 per cent in December, Ica said.

The number of flights departing has also gradually increased from 416 on May 25, 2020, when commercial air passenger services resumed, to 2,294 till January 18, 2021, said Kinjal Shah, Vice President at Ica.

For January 2021, the average daily departures were around 2,190, significantly lower than the average daily departures of 3,080 in January 2020, though better than around 2,048 in December 2020, she said.

"The average number of passengers per flight during January 2021 was 111, against an average of 134 passengers per flight in January 2020. Thus, it is expected that the domestic aviation industry operated at a passenger load factor (PLF) of around 72 per cent in the previous month against 86 per cent in January 2020, that too on a low capacity," she added.

Indian pharma market expected to hit USD 130 bn by 2030: Gowda

New Delhi: The Indian pharmaceutical industry has proved to be a dependable supplier of quality drugs in a time of global need on account of the Covid-19 pandemic, and is expected to reach a size of USD 130 billion by 2030, Chemical and Fertiliser Minister D V Sadananda Gowda said on Monday.

Following the onset of the pandemic, the Indian pharma industry has shown its role as a reliable supplier of drugs and medical devices in a time of need, he added.

"The total market size of the Indian pharma industry is expected to reach USD 130 billion by 2030.

The medical devices industry in India has the potential to grow at 28 per cent per annum to reach USD 50 billion by 2025," Gowda said.

He was addressing the curtain raiser press conference on the 6th edition of 'Indian Pharma & India Medical Device 2021'. "India has been serving more than 200 countries with its pharma products and will continue to discharge its responsibilities.

Ration card portability scheme: States asked to send proposals for additional funds by Feb 15

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Monday asked State Governments to submit their proposals seeking additional funds for the ration card portability scheme, called 'One Nation-One Ration Card' (ONORC), by

February 15.

Under the ONORC plan, beneficiaries can lift their entitled foodgrains from any electronic point of sale device (ePoS)-enabled fair price shops of their choice by using their existing ration cards with biometric authentication.

Kharif paddy procurement up 18% to 616.43 L tonne so far

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Govt's paddy procurement at minimum support price (MSP) has increased 17.52% to 616.43 lakh tonne so far in the 2020-21 kharif marketing year, with maximum been purchased from Punjab,

according to the Food Ministry. The Centre's nodal agency Food Corporation of India (FCI) and state agencies undertake procurement of foodgrains to meet the food security needs under various welfare schemes and exigencies as well as to ensure MSP to farmers.

Procurement of paddy grown during the kharif season of 2020-21 crop year is underway. In a statement, the ministry said paddy procurement is continuing "smoothly" in the procuring states with a purchase of 616.43 lakh tonne of paddy up to February 7 this

year. "This is an increase of 17.52 per cent against the last year corresponding purchase of 524.52 lakh tonne," it said.

Out of the total purchase, Punjab alone has contributed 202.82 lakh tonne which is 32.90 per cent of the total procurement, it added.

Besides, the government has procured through its nodal agencies about 3,08,783.12 tonne of moong, urad, tur, groundnut pods and soybean at an MSP value of Rs 1,662.68 crores benefiting 1,67,362 farmers in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra.

BRIEFS

MALABAR GOLD OFFERS GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY
Mumbai: Malabar Gold and Diamonds has made efforts to enable buyers to purchase highest quality gold bars responsibly sourced from gold mining. "There are international standards for collecting gold, from the time it is mined to the time it is delivered to the final customer through sellers. Malabar Gold and Diamonds sells gold collected responsibly from authorised sources in association with major banks in the country," said Malabar Group chairman MP Ahamed.

PARAS DAIRY EMPOWERING DAIRY FARMERS
New Delhi: VRS Foods's Paras Dairy brand, in collaboration with tech startup and World Economic Forum's technology pioneer Stellapps, has launched a first of its kind fully automated user friendly digital direct farmers payment application "mooPay". "Paras for years has been trying to achieve a direct relationship with farmers. We have invested a lot of capital in making the procurement process transparent and help dairy farmers to increase their income," said Narendra Nagar, CMD, VRS Foods. End

KAMA HOLDINGS LIMITED									
CIN : L92199DL2000PLC104779									
Registered Office: The Galleria, DLF Mayur Vihar, Unit No. 236 & 237, 2nd Floor, Mayur Place, Noida Link Road, Mayur Vihar Phase I Extn, Delhi - 110091									
Corporate Office: Block C, Sector 45, Gurgaon-122003, Tel. No (Regd office) : (+91-11) 49482870 • Fax : (+91-11) 49482900									
Email : info@kamaholdings.com; website : www.kamaholdings.com									
UNAUDITED STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS									
FOR THE QUARTER AND NINE MONTHS ENDED 31TH DECEMBER 2020									
(Rs. in Lakhs)									
Sl. No.	Particulars	STANDALONE				CONSOLIDATED			
		Quarter ended		Nine Months ended		Quarter ended		Nine Months ended	
		31-Dec-20	31-Dec-19	31-Dec-20	31-Dec-19	31-Dec-20	31-Dec-19	31-Dec-20	31-Dec-19
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1	Total Income from Operations	0.07	0.00	1502.69	2103.43	216512.25	185977.62	584445.14	540012.31
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (including discontinued operations)	(45.64)	(39.81)	1351.23	1982.92	44295.31	25930.35	110369.92	70247.80
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (including discontinued operations)*	(45.64)	(40.11)	1179.23	1982.62	32395.64	34485.33	81584.38	72215.82
4	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	(45.67)	(40.08)	1178.70	1982.26	40758.02	35775.82	98088.83	84055.61
5	Paid up Equity Share Capital	645.26	645.26	645.26	645.26	645.26	645.26	645.26	645.26
6	Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) -								
(a)	Basic :	(0.71)	(0.62)	18.28	30.73	242.42	276.93	640.72	675.79
(b)	Diluted:	(0.71)	(0.62)	18.28	30.73	242.42	276.93	640.72	675.79

Note: The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/Annual Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/Annual Financials Results are available on the Stock Exchange websites (www.bseindia.com) and the Company's website (www.kamaholdings.com).

For and on behalf of the Board

Ekta Maheshwari

Whole Time Director, CFO & Company Secretary

(DIN: 02071432)

Place : Gurugram, Haryana

Date : 8th February, 2021

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SW)-I
OVER HEAD TANK: OPP. BHARTI COLLEGE
JANAKPURI, NEW DELHI-110058

"STOP CORONA: Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"
PRESS NIT NO 22 SW-I (2020-21)

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Date of release of tender in e-procurement solution	Last date/time receipt of tender through e-procurement Solution
1.	Imp. Of W/supply by P/L 150mm dia Water Line from Nagar van park road on Kailash Puri Road to Gali no.10 Maadan Puri RZ-22/331 in Dwarka Constituency AC-38 under EE(SW-I)	Rs. 3295945/-	Tender ID 2021_DJB_199651_1 on 05.02.2021 at 03:17 PM onward	20.02.2021 Upto 3:05 PM

NIT along with all the terms & conditions is available on DJB Web Site <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) Ex. MUNISH KUMAR
 Advt. No. J.S.V.385 (2020-21) EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SW)-I

PARADIP PORT TRUST
E-AUCTION NOTICE
 Paradip Port Trust intent to dispose off Tug Durga on "as is where is basis" by e-auction through M/s.MSTC. For details, interested bidders may log on to MSTC website www.mstcindia.co.in/www.mstcecommerce.com.
Sr.Dy.Materials Manager
PPT/PR/385/20-21 Dt.08.02.2021

NORTHERN RAILWAY
CORRIGENDUM-1
 No.: 221-S/4/W/BP/MTC/ML-IV(2020) Date: 08.02.2021
Name of Work: Round the Clock Transportation of Drivers Line Boxes of Diesel & Electric Drivers & Guards from Engine/Train/B.Van to Running room/Lobby/Station/ Yard and vice-versa at Meerut City station under Sr. Crew Controller, Meerut City Station for the period of two years from the date of execution of work (as per detailed scope of work)

Published Date for submission of tender and opening of tender	Date of Opening may be read as under
26.02.2021	01.03.2021

Other terms and conditions remain same. 274/2021

Serving Customers with a Smile

WANTED

General public is here by informed that this suspected person who have carried out fraudulent transaction from the ATM of Hauz Khas, New Delhi Dated 14.02.2020 at 13:18 PM is wanted in case FIR No. 25/20 dated 15.02.2020 u/s 420 IPC P.S. South Avenue, New Delhi.

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

E-mail: cbc@cbi.gov.in **SHO : P.S. South Avenue, Delhi**
Website: http://cbi.nic.in **Tel. No. : 011-23013336, 23019258**
Fax: 24368639, **23019258**
Tel.: 24368638/24368641

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

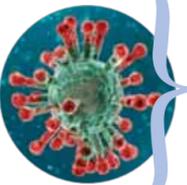
SR. No.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	PWD B&R, PALWAL	CONSTRUCTION OF EVM/VVPATS WARE HOUSE FOR THE PROPER STORAGE IN MINI SECT. AT PALWAL IN PALWAL DISTT.	CLOSING DATE 25.02.2021	206.57 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	8851491777 pwd-eeepd-palwal@hry.nic.in
2	PWD B&R, BHIWANI	SPECIAL REPAIR BY PROVIDING 4-LANNING OF HTB ROAD WITHIN M.C. LIMIT BHIWANI FROM KM 83.06 TO85.01 IN BHIWANI DISTT. (ROAD ID NO.2223) + 1 OTHER WORK	05.02.2021 01.03.2021	586.33 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01664242436 pwd-eeepd-bhiwani@hry.nic.in
3	PWD B&R, REWARI	ROAD & PARKING IN THE CAMPUS OF SAINIK SCHOOL AT GOTHRA TAPPA KHORI IN REWARI DISTRICT.	08.02.2021 01.03.2021	1618.80 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01274253703 pwd-eeepd-rewari@hry.nic.in
4	PWD B&R, HISAR	CONSTRUCTION OF APPROACHES OF 2 LANE ROB AT LC NO. 114 AT KM 172/1-2 ON REWARI-HISAR BHATINDA RAILWAY LINE ON ADAMPUR TO DAROLI ROAD IN HISAR DISTT.	09.02.2021 22.02.2021	1775.35 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9812306111 pwd-eeepd1-hissar@hry.nic.in
5	PWD B&R, HISAR	CONSTRUCTION OF INTEGRATED COMPLEX (OBSERVATION HOME, SPECIAL HOME, PLACE OF SAFETY AND CHILDREN HOME) AT VILLAGE BEED IN HISAR DISTRICT	08.02.2021 22.02.2021	2330.94 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01662239887 pwd-eeepd3-hissar@hry.nic.in
6	PWD B&R, KURUKSHETRA	ANNUAL REPAIR TO VARIOUS NON RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS UNDER PROVINCIAL SUB DIVISION NO. 2 KURUKSHETRA FOR THE YEAR 2020-21 UNDER HEAD 2059. (GROUP- II)+ 1 OTHER WORK	05.02.2021 22.02.2021	4 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01744297271 pwd-eeepd2-kurukshetra@hry.nic.in
7	PWD B&R, KARNAL	CONSTRUCTION OF SHC ATERNA DISTT. SONIPAT (PDG. EI ONLY). RECALL + 3 OTHER WORKS	05.02.2021 22.02.2021	49.80 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01842265696 pwd-eeed-karnal@hry.nic.in
8	DIRECTOR GENERAL, SUPPLIES & DISPOSALS, HARYANA	I) ELECTRIC PUMPING SETS (3CS CAPACITY) II) DIESEL PUMPING SETS (2CS CAPACITY) III) ELECTRIC PUMPING SETS (5CS CAPACITY)	06.02.2021 24.02.2021	NIL	https://etenders.hry.nic.in , dsndharyana.gov.in	0172-2570121-124,2584125,2585125 supplies@hry.nic.in
9	HIPA, GURUGRAM	RFP FOR COMPREHENSIVE ARCHITECTURE, INTERIOR DESIGN AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR RENOVATION OF EXISTING CENTRAL BUILDING OF HIPA, GURUGRAM	23.01.2021 22.02.2021	NIL	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9999033686 rekhad@hipa.in
10	PANCHAYATI RAJ,KAITHAL	CONST. OF LWM PROJECT IN DISTT. KAITHAL	11.02.2021 24.02.2021	207.02 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	94161-91639 Prexeeng.krl@hry.nic.in
11	PANCHAYATI RAJ,KARNAL	1 NO. WORK COMP. OF C/CENTRE GURU BRAHMANAND, CONST. OF B/WALL AND 3 NOS. OTHER WORKS	05.02.2021 22.02.2021	55.62 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416483487 prexeeng.krl@hry.nic.in
12	PANCHAYATI RAJ,KARNAL	1. CONST. OF GOBARDHAN PROJECT (CIVIL, ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL COMPONENT AND OPERATION) 2. CONSTRUCTION/ INSTALLATION OF L.P.G./ C.N.G. BASED CATTLE CREMATORIUM SYSTEM 3. 2 NO. WORKS CONSTRUCTION OF DISPOSAL/ TREATMENT OF WASTE WATER MANAGEMENT PROJECT	10.02.2020 05.03.2021	273.07 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416290875 prexeeng.krl@hry.nic.in
13	PANCHAYATI RAJ,KAITHAL	CONST OF LWM PROJECT AT VILLAGE RAITA KHERA AND UJHANA	11.02.2021 24.02.2021	40.37 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	94161-91639 Prexeeng.krl@hry.nic.in
14	PANCHAYATI RAJ,KURUKSHETRA	CONSTRUCTION OF HOMEOPATHIC DISPENSARY INCLUDING PH & EI WORKS	05.02.2021 25.02.2021	28.51 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416483487 prexeeng.krl@hry.nic.in
15	HEALTH DEPARTMENT CIVIL SURGEON PANCHKULA	E-TENDER FOR HIRING OF E RIKSHAW WITH MIKING FOR URBAN AREA OF DISTRICT PANCHKULA	09.02.2021 21.02.2021		https://etenders.hry.nic.in	7015995169 dhs.cspkl@hry.nic.in
16	IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT HARYANA,REWARI	CONSTRUCTION OF NEW TOILET ON 2ND FLOOR DIVISION OFFICE BUILDING AT CANAL COLONY REWARI.+ 3 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE 17.02.2021	20.64 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9354260552 xenwus2rri@gmail.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in **RO NO. 1725**

HEALTH

AIHelps

Researchers have developed a new method to counter emergent mutations of Covid-19 and hasten vaccine development to stop the pathogen responsible for killing thousands of people. Using AI, researchers have developed a method to speed the analysis of vaccines and zero in on the best potential preventive medical therapy



UP YOUR VITAMIN INTAKE



From boosting immunity to supporting muscle health, there are several reasons why

one should include Vitamin E in their diet, says RITU KHANEJA

Vitamin E is a fat-soluble vitamin. Our body stores and uses it as needed. Vitamin E in food is found in vegetable oils, margarine, nuts, seeds, cereals and leafy greens. People usually get enough vitamin E from the foods they eat. People with certain disorders may need extra Vitamin E from supplements. Vitamin E is an antioxidant, it plays an important role in the immune system building and metabolic processes.

Here are seven reasons to add Vitamin E in your daily diet

Boosts immune system
Vitamin E is a powerful antioxidant which protects cells from oxidative damage when cells are exposed to free radicals. It slows down the ageing process of your cells. It helps people with higher environmental lifestyle risk factors to fight against infections by boosting the immune system.

Enhances muscle health
Vitamin E plays a very important role in preparing and growing muscle tissue. After exercising, the cells and tissues become torn and it helps to restore them quickly and build them up stronger.

Keeps heart healthy
Getting more Vitamin E into the diet from healthy foods helps to protect the heart muscle from cramping and blood clotting. People who have cardiovascular problems are usually advised to have more of a Vitamin E rich diet as well as a supplement.

Supports eye health
If you suffer from eye problems then taking Vitamin E daily can help to prevent further damage. It supports the health of the small muscles surrounding the retina and protects it against damage from high blood sugar regimen and also protects the eye from free radical damage.

Maintains hair growth
As Vitamin E is a natural antioxidant, it also helps to maintain healthy hair growth. This can lower the risk of thinning hair as we get older by reducing oxidative stress and damage to the hair follicles.

Protects nerve health & hormonal health
Vitamin E is a fat-soluble nutrient, it helps to protect the cover of the body's nerve endings called the myelin sheath. Hormones in the body are made using fat and cholesterol as their raw material. Being an antioxidant and fat-soluble nutrient, it also protects exposures from free radical damage especially during menopause, Pms and stressful times.

Maintains healthy skin
Vitamin E is a powerful antioxidant which helps you in giving healthy skin as it repairs the skin damage caused due to exposure to air pollution and ultraviolet rays of the sun.

To conclude, Vitamin E is sensitive to heat so it must be consumed from raw and uncooked foods to protect its nutritional value. Add Vitamin E to your daily diet to attain its health benefits.

The writer is Dietitian & Therapeutic Nutritionist and Founder, RightKCalories

DOCYARD

DR KUMUD KUMAR DHITAL

Senior Consultant
Cardiothoracic
Surgeon

YASHODA HOSPITALS



Signs one shouldn't ignore



Over five decades, since the first successful heart transplant was carried out by Christiaan Barnard in Cape Town, South Africa, this procedure remains the most effective proven therapy to alleviate symptoms, improve quality of life and confer survival benefit for a selection of end-stage heart failure (HF) patients who have no further medical or non-transplant surgical options available to them. Typically, these patients will have less than 50 per cent chance of surviving the next two years without the surgical intervention.

The following are indications for heart transplantation:

Idiopathic Dilated Cardiomyopathy: This is a disease of unknown cause that affects the heart muscle such that one or both ventricles, or main pumping chambers of the heart, tend to dilate and cause reduced function. The heart is then unable to pump sufficient blood around the body, particularly when it demands more oxygen and nutrients during exertion.

Ischaemic Cardiomyopathy: This is caused by disease of the arteries of the heart whereby the arteries are either narrowed or blocked by local deposition and collection of fatty material through a process called atherosclerosis. Many patients will have had intervention by way of stents placed inside the diseased arteries, or have had bypass surgery. Some patients with ischaemic heart disease can also have refractory chest pain, or angina, that is not amenable to percutaneous or surgical treatment. They also benefit from heart transplantation.

Valvular Heart Disease: A condition where disease of one or more heart valves leads to damage of the heart muscle with enlargement of the heart and poor function.

Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy: Characterised by abnormal thickening of the heart muscle, typically the left ventricle, such that it becomes stiff and unable to perform the necessary pumping action. This condition is often linked to an inherited genetic defect.

Infiltrative cardiomyopathy: Both genetic and acquired causes lead to the deposition of abnormal material within the tissues of the heart leading to heart failure. Some of these diseases are Amyloidosis, Sarcoidosis, Haemochromatosis, Fabry disease, Danon disease and Friedreich's ataxia.

Congenital Heart Disease (CHD): Some complex congenital heart diseases are not amenable to surgical correction or repair and require neonatal heart transplantation. However, many conditions can be corrected or repaired in childhood and over that over 80 per cent of patients with CHD now survive to adulthood. A proportion of patients who have had one or more surgical procedure will develop heart failure later in life. Some of these conditions will eventually result in damage to the lungs also with the requirement of a combined heart and lung transplant.

Persistent Ventricular Arrhythmia: Intermittent malignant heart rhythms can become intractable with damage to the heart muscle and eventual heart failure.

Primary Cardiac Tumour: Rarely, a primary cardiac cancer without risk of metastasis may also be amenable to heart transplantation.

Other conditions: Heart muscle can also be damaged by alcohol, drugs, viral infection (viral myocarditis), following childbirth (post-partum cardiomyopathy) and also in the context of thyroid disease or Diabetes.

WARMFOODS

BATHUA: Bathua or chenopodium leaves are filled with many nutritional qualities which can do wonders for your overall health. It is loaded with essential minerals and antioxidants.

It is a powerhouse of Vitamin A, C and B complex. The leaves are a good source of amino acids too. Amino acids play a significant role in cell function and cell repair. A large proportion of our cells, muscles and tissues are made up of amino acids.

Minerals like iron, potassium, phosphorus and calcium are also present in abundance

in Bathua. Rich in fibre and water content, bathua also cures constipation (due to its laxative properties) and a host of your tummy problems by aiding digestion and boosting intestinal activity too. Bathua's role in keeping your liver healthy has also made these lovely greens a hit in the health and nutrition circuit.



Gift of Life

Doctors at HCMT Manipal Hospitals successfully performed one of the most complex life-saving liver transplant surgery on a nine-month old. MUSBA HASHMI brings you a report

With fading hopes, but with a stern decision of not giving in to the circumstances, Ali Hamad's parents thought of reaching out to HCMT Manipal Hospitals after hearing 'no' from many big hospitals in Delhi.

It was their strong will to save their baby that even fortune favoured them, so much so that such a complicated surgery was successfully done in nine-month old Hamad.

Liver transplants are often tricky. Sometimes it is too late for a transplant, while the other times the body doesn't accept the donor's liver at all. However, the most risky of all is the transplant in babies less than one year of age and 10 kg of weight. So was the case with Hamad who suffered from liver failure due to a rare disorder.

Dr Sailendra Lalwani, Head of the Department of Liver Transplant and Hepato-Pancreatic-Biliary Surgery, HCMT Manipal Hospitals performed the surgery that makes Hamad one of the youngest babies undergoing a very complex liver transplant procedure. Dr Sailendra Lalwani's team was supported by Dr Lalit Sehgal HOD — General Anesthesia, Liver Transplant Anesthesia, Liver Critical Care, Dr Vikas Taneja, HOD — Pediatrics and Dr Sufla Saxena, Consultant — Paediatric Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist.

Hamad was a known case of Progressive Familial Intrahepatic Cholestasis Type II (PFIC TYPE 2). He had jaundice since birth.

The patient had multiple hospitalisations in Iraq for jaundice and recurrent cholangitis. "He was evaluated for jaundice and a liver biopsy done in Iraq was suggestive of progressive familial intrahepatic cholestasis Type 2. Three other siblings of the patient died because of jaundice and they remained undiagnosed. Given the history, clinical condition, and pathological diagnosis patient was referred for a liver transplant," Dr Lalwani tells you.

This is not all. Hamad was having infection with cholangitis for which he was admitted and treated. "Apart from recurrent cholangitis, the patient was having marked ascites and growth failure with a bodyweight of 6.1 kg. He underwent evaluation for a living donor liver transplant and his mother was evaluated as a prospective donor. During an evaluation, CT scan showed cirrhotic changes, hepatosplenomegaly with attenuated portal vein with no portal flow with significant ascites and significant portosystemic collaterals," Dr Lalwani says.

He adds that no supply of blood to the liver or clinically speaking attenuated portal vein is a big challenge to any liver transplant team as vascular complications are high in paediatric transplant patients. The reconstruction of the portal vein with graft is always a challenge as it increases the risk of thrombotic complications.

"To overcome this challenge, we planned to use an iliac vein

There are no complications in Hamad right now, but since his immunity is almost zero, he needs extra care, especially during the pandemic. However, the donor is healthy and has nothing to worry about

— Dr Sailendra Lalwani, HOD, Liver Transplant, Manipal Hospitals

graft procured during cadaveric liver transplant," Dr Lalwani explains.

Hamad underwent a transplant on January 3, 2021. "There was no flow in the portal vein. We placed the interposition vein graft to give inflow to the liver. It took around nine hours to complete the transplant and baby was shifted to ICU on a ventilator," Dr Lalwani elaborates.

The baby was off the ventilator the next morning and gradually in the next few days, he started accepting oral feed, tolerating well, and gaining weight. "Finally, after 20 days of surgery baby was

discharged from the hospital. The family plans to go back to Iraq now," Dr Lalwani adds. The baby, however, was given 80 per cent of successful surgery with a 20 per cent of risk.

"There are no complications in Hamad right now, but since his immunity is almost zero, he needs extra care, especially during the pandemic. However, the donor is healthy and has nothing to worry about. She was on medication for about five days post the surgery, but is now completely fine," Dr Lalwani explains.

Dr Saxena says that it has been possible because the parents brought the baby right in time which contributed to the successful surgery. "There are three phases of liver failure. Phase I is the most treatable, while in Phase II and III it is comparatively difficult to treat the patient. Hamad was brought to the hospital in the beginning of Phase II, hence we took the chance and with God's grace completed the surgery," Dr Saxena tells you.

Hamad's mother, who also became the donor, says that she was extremely afraid about losing her child again. "He is my fourth son, earlier three died perhaps suffering from the same liver disease. I was very afraid about Hamad's survival, but the doctors here saved the life of my son. We express since gratitude towards all doctors of Manipal Hospitals. From day one they assured me that everything will be right and I will go back to Iraq with a healthy child," she says.

DadiKaKehna

Seasonal flus are annoying, and threatening too, especially during this pandemic. ROSHANI DEVI shares easy home remedies that can help treat the flu without having to put too much efforts



Flu season is starting. While catching cold and cough may not be that big of a deal, but during the pandemic it can definitely give you a mini heart attack.

Here are a few tips that can help.

Drink warm water. Drinking warm water twice a day, with or without having a flu is beneficial. It not only helps relieve sore throat but also helps to detoxify your body.

Salt water gargle. Add one tsp of salt to lukewarm water and gargle twice daily. It will help kill the bacteria in throat and

will relieve pain and discomfort.

Take steam. Boil water in a pan, cover your head with a towel and inhale the steam for at least 15 minutes. Do this twice daily. This will help relieve stuffy nose, sore throat and even reduce head aches.

Drink ginger tea. Ginger is known for its anti-inflammatory properties. Drinking ginger tea once a day will help reduce cold.

Vitamin C helps. Mix lemon in lukewarm water and drink it daily. Vitamin C is rich in antioxidants which help improve immunity and fight cold and flu.

How often do we switch to healthy snacking while watching our favourite web series or for that matter to satisfy those late night hunger pangs? The answer is very rarely. And even if we try to do so we don't find much tasty options.

Here comes California Pistachios to your rescue.

"Pistachios are a great source of healthy fats, fiber, protein, Vitamin B6, potassium, thiamine, copper, phosphorus and powerful antioxidants like lutein and zeaxanthin. They are also the lowest calorie nut so you can have more pistachios in a single serving as compared to any other commonly consumed nuts. The results from the largest randomised clinical trial to date on nuts and Diabetes showed that eating about 2 ounces of nuts a day for three months, as a replacement for carbohydrate foods, may improve long-term blood sugar control and LDL cholesterol in people with Type II Diabetes," Luke Coutinho, Holistic Lifestyle Coach — Integrative Medicine & Founder — Luke Coutinho Holistic Healing Systems Pvt Ltd, tells you.

He adds that the research shows that adding pistachios to different common carbohydrate foods, such as rice and pasta, was linked to reduced relative blood sugar response of the meal.

Break the shell

LUKE COUTINHO tells MUSBA HASHMI the benefits of adding American Pistachios in diet, how it helps in weight management and shares tips to select the best variety from the lot



However, there are various beliefs associated with eating nuts. Eating them only in winters is one. But that is, of course, not true. "Eating a handful of nuts like pistachios should be a part of everyone's daily and balanced diet," Coutinho, who was recent-

ly announced as the American Pistachio Growers (APG) Lifestyle Ambassador in India during a virtual press conference, says.

For those who are always angsty about not putting extra kgs, pistachios can help them too. "Researchers recently discovered that eating as much as 20 per cent of calories from American pistachios may not lead to weight gain, but it may provide the added benefit of improving health. American pistachios are also one of the lowest-calorie nuts with just 160 calories in a single ounce which is equivalent to 49 pistachios. Also the act of opening each pistachio shell to get out the nut slows down the eating process, which lead to greater satisfaction and fullness after eating," Coutinho explains.

He adds that it's time we stop fearing good fats and blame them for making us put on weight. "We

need good fats for so many bodily functions. It is a poor lifestyle, sedentary day, overeating junk, toxic emotions, poor sleep patterns, that actually lead to weight gain," Coutinho asserts.

Now many of us would wonder how to select the best variety of pistachios, Coutinho shares words of wisdom to help them.

"Not many know that mainly only two countries generate the biggest yields of pistachios: the US and Iran. In the US, pistachios are primarily grown in California. What makes these two kinds different is the fat content. California pistachios are lower in saturated fats (1.5 grams per serving) and high in protein (6 grams), making them a healthier choice than their counterparts from other countries, giving you yet another reason to include it into your daily diet and open up one more avenue for healthful snacking," Coutinho explains.



TRENDBLAZER



'DON'T SPEND SO MUCH TIME ON INTERNET'

Actor **AMIT SADH** hinted that he is taking a temporary break from social media. Meanwhile, the actor shared a few pieces of valuable advice for his fans and followers on Instagram. "Going into my tunnel for maintenance. Be nice to each other, be kind to each other and don't spend so much time on the internet. There is life around you. Smell that and embrace that," Amit wrote in an Instagram post.

fairtalk

MAANVI GAGROO



'As a person I am extremely opinionated and vocal. I have grown up with the internet and, for me, expressing myself online comes very naturally, and it is almost second nature to me. But now I have realised that since I have a certain responsibility and following, I cannot say just anything. Earlier when I did not have that following, I had that liberty'

dailytalk

SHAMITA SHETTY



'Right from the beginning, quantity was really not something that I was attracted to and if I was, maybe staying relevant would have been an important factor for me. So, I don't think I have really focussed on that. Unfortunately, you are in an industry that says out of sight is out of mind, and I think that happened with me so many times'

CAMILLA, CHRIS EXPECTING FIRST CHILD

Singer **CAMILLA KERSLAKE** and her husband, former England rugby captain Chris Robshaw, have announced they are expecting their first child in May end. "Lockdown is why we decided to get pregnant. It seemed like a productive use of my time. I don't have to take a career break because it's not like I'm turning down any work," Camilla said.



HEART ON YOUR SLEEVE

Couple tattoos have gained tremendous popularity in the last few years. Here are some creative ideas to express your love by getting inked together this Valentine's Day.

By TEAM VIVA

Valentine's Day marks the celebration of love. It is that time of the year when love and romance blossom in every heart and in every corner of the world. The couples explore new ways to express their emotions and make their partner feel special. There are many things that you can do to make someone feel special, yet there are some people who want to wear their hearts, literally, on their sleeves by getting a permanent tattoo on their skin!

Couple tattoos have gained tremendous popularity in the last few years. Getting a beautiful piece of art tattooed on your body to dedicate it to your spouse/partner is something thoughtful and cherishable. Both ink and love require lifelong commitments as they never fade, regardless of how much time passes. So if you want to show your partner that you're pretty serious about the relationship and it's a 'forever' kind of love, then matching tattoos are the new, modern way to reveal how much this bond matters to you!

There are a variety of tattoo styles that are trending these days. People



have become creative and are finding different ways of inking their love. Some designs include, king and queen crowns, connecting puzzle tattoo, partner's name, name initials, zodiac symbols, infinity sign, or wedding date etc.

An award-winning tattoo artist,



Lokesh Verma who is the founder of Devil's Tattooz, has listed down some trends that are popular among couples:

Name or date: Many couples tend to get too romantic on this specific day and get each other's names inked to show how much they love each other. The most popular example of this was Saif Ali Khan's tattoo for his lady love, Kareena Kapoor Khan. One can also get special dates inked, such as wedding anniversary or the first time you met. These are special memories and moments to cherish.

Identical ones: For an everlasting bond, a lot of people prefer to find that one common thing which both the partners can connect with such as word or phrase, musical notes or any symbol. Having the same tattoo links you together for life. Even, Priyanka Chopra Jonas and Nick Jonas marked their first anniversary of their engagement by getting matching tattoos to celebrate that.

Connecting tattoos: Connecting or

half and half tattoo is complete only when the couple is together. Thus, depicting that they are incomplete without each other. One example is the heartbeat tattoo that runs from one to the other. Couples who are in a long-distance relationship also get connecting tattoos to represent how you and your partner may be miles apart but still connected.

Minimalistic designs: To make a big impact, go small! A lot of people like to keep things personal, super discreet, nothing to elaborate, visible, flashy or bold. For such private and simple people, the minimalistic tattoos are the best options — small tattoos to define the large amount of love you feel. Want to convey a powerful message in a subtle way? Then small tattoos characterised with clean lines are the way to go!

Ink the fingerprint: This is something quirky and unique — getting the fingerprint of your partner printed on yourself. It's like a signature of love inked on you, which is the ultimate seal of love.



The writer's desk

How do you go about writing the next bestseller? Here are a few tips

Maya Anelou had said, "There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you" So if you want to be a writer, you must do two things above all others: read a lot and write a lot. But how can burgeoning writers take their idea to a book-length reality? Well, Wattpad's author, Neil D'Silva shares a few tips on how to get started.

Write what you like to read

Do not make the mistake of emulating market trends and getting influenced by the latest bestselling books. Stay true to your conviction. Even if your story is unconventional and of a kind that has never been written before, go ahead and write it if you are convinced. In fact, you must definitely write stories of the kind that have never been written.

Dedicate yourself to a writing regimen

If you dream to get published, you need to stop thinking of writing as a hobby and give it serious attention. Allot a couple of hours per day or more when you will only write, without distractions. Keep the phone off and don't check your social media when you write. Writing every day is absolutely essential. You have to keep writing till it becomes second nature to you.

Join writing groups and communities online and offline

Writers who are starting out can reap great benefits by being part of a community where they can share their writing and get feedback. It also makes you less lonely and motivates you to see that there are many others sharing the same passion as you. Writing groups on various social media platforms are wonderful places to mingle with fellow writers.

Be vocal about your ideas: Ayushmann

Bollywood star Ayushmann Khurrana had announced his next, *Anek*, directed by filmmaker Anubhav Sinha. In the first look, the actor is seen sporting an eyebrow slit and the actor reveals how he took this idea to his director.

Ayushmann, who plays the character of Joshua in the film, says, "I have been fortunate enough to collaborate with filmmakers who have always encouraged my creative inputs to their vision of storytelling. The eyebrow slit that I'm sporting in the film was an idea that I discussed with Anubhav sir. It was about creating a distinct look that audiences have never seen me in and I'm glad that people have taken notice of this and are discussing it."

He adds, "I have to thank my director for being open to my suggestion and that's what makes our creative partnership so exciting. I have always been an eager artist who wants to contribute towards building my character."

Ayushmann has been vocalising his ideas to his directors in the recent past. He says, "I always make these mental notes and discuss them with my director. Like in *Shubh Mangal Zyada Saavdhan*, my character wears a nose ring. I had bounced this idea with Hitesh (Kewalya) and Anand Rai sir and I'm glad they took this input on board. Similarly, Shoojit sir was happy with the idea that I wanted to have a lisp in *Gulabo Sitabo*."

Ayushmann adds, "I like to be an active voice when I team up with someone, discussing everything under the sun about my character and the film. I feel invested if I openly speak my mind and thankfully I have always had filmmakers who have appreciated what I bring to the table."

CAPRI GLOBAL CAPITAL LIMITED
 Registered & Corporate Office :- 502, Tower-A, Peninsula Business Park, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai-400013
 Circle Office :- Capri Global Capital Limited 2nd Floor, 3B Pusa Road Rajendra Place, New Delhi-110005

APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to rule 8 (6)]
Sale notice for sale of immovable properties

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Constructive/physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Capri Global Capital Limited Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on dates below mentioned, for recovery of amount mentioned below due to the Capri Global Capital Limited Secured Creditor from Borrower mentioned below. The reserve price, EMD amount and property details mentioned below.

SR. NO.	1. BORROWER(S) NAME 2. OUTSTANDING AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION OF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY	1. DATE & TIME OF E-AUCTION 2. LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF EMD	1. RESERVE PRICE 2. EMD OF THE PROPERTY 3. INCREMENTAL VALUE
1.	1. Dharival Enterprises "Borrower" 2. Mr. Dalvir Singh Dhariwal 3. Ms. Vijay Sarojayni 4. Mr. Udit Dhariwal (Co-borrower) LOAN ACCOUNT No. L00CGDELTL0000005624 Rupees 1,44,09,884/- Rupees One Crore Forty Four Lacs Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Four only along with interest from 31.12.2020 along with applicable future interest.	All that piece and parcel of PLOT NO. 43, KHASRA NO. 466, VILLAGE ROSHANPURA, NOW KNOWN AS SANJAY ENCLAVE, NAJAFGARH, DELHI-110043	3. DATE & TIME OF THE PROPERTY INSPECTION 1. E-AUCTION DATE: 27.02.2021 (Between 3:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.) 2. LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF EMD WITH KYC: 26.02.2021 3. DATE OF INSPECTION: 25.02.2021	RESERVE PRICE: Rs. 90,00,000/- (Rupees Ninety Lacs Only) EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT: Rs. 9,00,000/- (Rupees Nine Lacs Only) INCREMENTAL VALUE: Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lac Only)

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Capri Global Capital Limited Secured Creditor's website i.e. www. Capriglobal.in/auction/TERMS & CONDITIONS OF ONLINE E-AUCTION SALE- TERMS & CONDITIONS OF ONLINE E-AUCTION SALE-
 1. The Property is being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS, WHATEVER THERE & WITHOUT RECOURSE BASIS". As such sale is without any kind of warranties & indemnities.
 2. Particulars of the property / assets (viz. extent & measurements specified in the E-Auction Sale Notice has been stated to the best of information of the Secured Creditor and Secured Creditor shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission. Actual extent & dimensions may differ.
 3. E-Auction Sale Notice issued by the Secured Creditor is an invitation to the general public to submit their bids and the same does not constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any commitment or representation on the part of the Secured Creditor. Interested bidders are advised to peruse the copies of title deeds with the Secured Creditor and to conduct own independent enquiries / due diligence about the title & present condition of the property / assets and claims / dues affecting the property before submission of bid/s.
 4. Auction/bidding shall only be through "online electronic mode" through the website <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net> Or Auction Tiger Mobile APP provided by the service provider M/S eProcurement Technologies Limited, Ahmedabad who shall arrange & coordinate the entire process of auction through the e-auction platform.
 5. The bidders may participate in e-auction for bidding from their place of choice. Internet connectivity shall have to be ensured by bidder himself. Secured Creditor / service provider shall not be held responsible for the internet connectivity, network problems, system crash own, power failure etc.
 6. For details, help, procedure and online bidding on e-auction prospective bidders may contact the Service Provider M/S E-Procurement Technologies Ltd. Auction Tiger, Ahmedabad (Contact No. 079-61200531/576/596/559/598/587/594/), Mr. Ramprasad Sharma Mob. 800-002-3297/ 79-6120 0559. Email: ramprasad@auctiontiger.net.
 7. For participating in the e-auction sale the intending bidders should register their name at <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net> well in advance and shall get the user id and password. Intending bidders are advised to change only the password immediately upon receiving it from the service provider.
 8. For participating in e-auction, intending bidders have to deposit a refundable EMD of 10% OF RESERVE PRICE (as mentioned above) shall be payable by interested bidders through Demand Draft/NEFT/RTGS in favor of "Capri Global Capital Limited" on or before 26-Feb-2021.
 9. The intending bidders should submit the duly filled in Bid Form (format available on <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net>) along with the Demand Draft remittance towards EMD in a sealed cover addressed to the Authorised Officer, Capri Global Capital Limited Regional Office 3-B, Second floor, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi - 110005 latest by 03:00 PM on 26-Feb-2021. The sealed cover should be super scribed with "Bid for participating in E-Auction Sale - in the Loan Account No. _____ (as mentioned above) for property of "Borrower Name."
 10. After expiry of the last date of submission of bids with EMD, Authorised Officer shall examine the bids received by him and confirm the details of the qualified bidders (who have quoted their bids over and above the reserve price and paid the specified EMD with the Secured Creditor) to the service provider M/S eProcurement Technologies Limited to enable them to allow only those bidders to participate in the online inter-se bidding / auction proceedings at the date and time mentioned in E-Auction Sale Notice.
 11. Inter-se bidding among the qualified bidders shall start from the highest bid quoted by the qualified bidders. During the process of inter-se bidding, there will be unlimited extension of "10" minutes each, i.e. the end time of e-auction bid will be automatically extended by 10 Minutes each time if bid is made within 10 minutes from the last extension.
 12. Bids once made shall not be cancelled or withdrawn. All bids made from the user id given to bidder will be deemed to have been made by him alone.
 13. Immediately upon closure of E-Auction proceedings, the highest bidder shall confirm the final amount of bid quoted by him BY E-Mail both to the Authorised Officer, Capri Global Capital Limited, Regional Office 3-B, Second floor, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi -110005 and the Service Provider for getting declared as successful bidder in the E-Auction Sale proceedings.
 14. The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the bid amount (including EMD) on the same day of the sale, being knocked down in his favour and balance 75% of bid amount within 15 days from the date of sale by DD/Pay order/NEFT/RTGS/Chq favouring Capri Global Capital Limited.
 15. In case of default in payment of above stipulated amounts by the successful bidder / auction purchaser within the stipulated time, the sale will be cancelled and the amount already paid (including EMD) will be forfeited and the property will be again put to sale.
 16. At the request of the successful bidder, the Authorised Officer in his absolute discretion may grant further time in writing, for depositing the balance of the bid amount.
 17. The Successful Bidder shall pay 1% of Sale price towards TDS (out of Sale proceeds) and submit TDS certificate to the Authorised officer and the deposit the entire amount of sale price (after deduction of 1% towards TDS), adjusting the EMD within 15 working days of the acceptance of the offer by the authorized officer, or within such other extended time as deemed fit by the Authorised Officer, failing which the earnest deposit will be forfeited.
 18. Municipal / Panchayat Taxes, Electricity dues (if any) and any other authorities dues (if any) has to be paid by the successful bidder before issuance of the sale certificate. Bids shall be made taking into consideration of all the statutory dues pertaining to the property.
 19. Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful bidder only upon deposit of entire purchase price / bid amount and furnishing the necessary proof in respect of payment of all taxes / charges.
 20. Applicable legal charges for conveyance, stamp duty, registration charges and other incidental charges shall be borne by the auction purchaser.
 21. The Authorised officer may postpone / cancel the E-Auction Sale proceedings without assigning any reason whatsoever. In case the E-Auction Sale scheduled is postponed to a later date before 15 days from the scheduled date of sale, it will be displayed on the website of the service provider.
 22. The decision of the Authorised Officer is final, binding and unquestionable.
 23. All bidders who submitted the bids, shall be deemed to have read and understood the terms and conditions of the E-Auction Sale and be bound by them.
 24. For further details and queries, contact Authorised Officer, Capri Global Capital Limited: Mr. Sushil Gupta Mo. No. 7400445137.
 25. This publication is also 15 (Fifteen) days notice to the Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantors of the above said loan account pursuant to rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, about holding of auction sale on the above mentioned date / place.
Special Instructions / Caution: Bidding in the last minutes/seconds should be avoided by the bidders in their own interest. Neither Capri Global Capital Limited nor the Service Provider will be responsible for any lapses/failure (Internet failure, Power failure, etc.) on the part of the bidder in such cases. In order to ward off such contingent situation, bidders are requested to make all the necessary arrangements / alternatives such as back-up power supply and whatever else required so that they are able to circumvent such situation and are able to participate in the auction successfully.
 Place: Delhi Date: 09-02-2021 Sd/- (Authorised Officer) Capri Global Capital Ltd.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, M/s. Tulip Infratech Pvt.Ltd. (the Developer) is in the process of undertaking the development of a Group Housing Colony in Sector 69-70, Gurugram over an area measuring 25.44 acres in accordance with the provisions of Licence no. 78 of 2010 dated 15.10.2010, granted by Director General, Town and Country Planning, Haryana, Chandigarh.

And whereas, several individuals have made bookings/ entered into flat buyer agreement for allotment of flat/ property in the said colony (hereinafter referred as allottees). And, whereas, the building plans earlier approved for the said colony are now proposed to be revised.

And whereas, the office of Director General, Town and Country Planning, Haryana, Chandigarh has required seeking of objection against the revision of said building plans.

Accordingly, vide this public notice objections are hereby invited from any of the allottees in said colony on the proposed revision of the building plan of said colony. A copy of the earlier building plan approved vide memo no. ZP-663/SD(BS)/2015/12616, Dated 15.07.2015 and the revised building plans approved in-principle vide Memo. No. ZP-663/AD(RA)/2020/2799 Dated 04.02.2021 is available for perusal on our website (www.tulipgroup.in) and at the office of undersigned at Tulip Infratech Pvt. Ltd 76-G, Sector-18, Gurugram as well as in the office of Senior Town Planner, Gurugram.

Any allottee having any objection on revised building plans, may file his objection in the office of Senior Town Planner, Sector 14, Gurugram within 30 days of publication of this notice, failing which it shall be assumed that there are no objections to the proposed revision in the building plans.

Place : Gurugram Sr. Manager- Commercial
 Dated: 09.02.2021 For, Tulip Infratech Pvt. Ltd.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

Notice U/s. 13(2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 is being issued by ICICI Bank Ltd. (on underlying pool assigned to ICICI Bank by Dewan Housing Finance Ltd.) in relation to the enforcement of security in respect of a housing loan facility granted pursuant to a loan agreement entered into between DHFL and the following borrower(s) who have defaulted in repayment of principal and interest of loans facility obtained by them from secured creditor and loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them on their last known addresses, however, it has returned un-served and hence, they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Guarantor / Loan Account Number (DHFL Old LAN & ICICI New LAN) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Kasturi Giri, Jagabandhu Giri, D-150, Tagore Gali No. 12, Jagjeet Nagar, New Usmanpur Gari, Delhi. A/c No-09600001841 & A/c No-QZDEL00005026137	E-258-A, Second Floor Without Roof Right, Block-E, Kh-No-749 Vill-Ghonda Gujran Kh, 3rd Pusta Jagjeet Nagar Shabdara, Delhi	14-Dec-2020, Rs. 14,33,318/-	31/01/2020
2.	Mrityunjay Kumar Tiwary, Reena Tiwary, 709, BlockE, DDA Flats Bindapur, Delhi. A/c No-25400000444, A/c No-QZDEL00005022985	prop bearing no. 112&113A, new No D-2951st Fir front RHS unit Without Roof, Gali 55,Kh No.113/15, Vill-Paliam, Delhi	14-Dec-2020, 1534547/-	30/11/2019
3.	Manish Sharma, Sunaina Sharma, C 20, 3 Rd Floor, Flat No-115, Gulab Bagh,	Plot.No-D-3, 3rd Floor Rear Right HandSide, With Roof Right, Kh No. 944 & 948, Vill Nawada, Gulab Bagh (om, Delhi)	14-Dec-2020, Rs. 2895699/-	31/01/2020
4.	Naveen Kumar Narang, Rashi Narang, Upper Ground, B-4, Hazara Park Shiv Puri, Delhi. A/c No- 25500001169 & A/c No-QZPTU00005064377	Prop.No-D-3, 3rd Floor,block-d, Hazara Park, Khasra No- 10/12/2, Shivpuri, Village, Khureji Khas, Shahdara, Delhi	14-Dec-2020, Rs. 2958876/-	31/01/2020

The bidders are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date : February 09, 2021 Place: Delhi/NCR
 Authorised Officer ICICI Bank Limited

INDIA NEED 381 TO WIN

Pak whitewash South Africa

PTI ■ CHENNAI

India were left with the Herculean task of chasing a world record 420 after England refused to declare in an unfocused second essay, cut short by Ravichandran Ashwin's brilliance on a sharply turning fourth day strip in the opening Test here on Monday.

At stumps, India were 39 for one, requiring another 381 runs to set a new record and take a 1-0 lead in the four-match series. The previous best is 418, chased by West Indies against Australia in 2003.

Relishing bowling on a responsive pitch, the seasoned Ashwin returned excellent figures of 6/61 to snap England's second innings at 178 after the home team conceded a massive first-innings lead of 241 runs.

With opener Rohit Sharma (12) back in the hut, Shubman Gill (15) and Cheteshwar Pujara (12) will begin the proceedings for India on the fifth and final day at the MA Chidambaram pitch, which has started to play tricks.

India would have been in a bigger hole had it not been for a seventh-wicket partnership of 80 runs between newcomer Washington Sundar (85) and Ashwin, who also contributed a 31 with the bat before picking his career's 28th five-wicket haul.

But despite the duo's best efforts, the hosts still fell way short of the follow-on target after being bowled out for 337. India resumed the day at 257 for six.

Hoping to give their bowlers some respite from the sweltering heat, England decided against enforcing the follow-on and batted again.

But the start wasn't the one they wanted as Ashwin bowled his off-spinners to deadly effect with the new ball, the bounce aiding him in his endeavour.

Ashwin removed Rory Burns with the very first ball of the second innings when he induced an edge for Ajinkya Rahane to take an easy catch in



Ravichandran Ashwin celebrates with Indian teammates after he completes his five-wicket haul against England in 2nd Innings

the first slip. Having ambled to 16 off 37 balls, Dominic Sibley was shown the door by Ashwin, with the bounce again helping the off-spinner.

Veteran pacer Ishant Sharma was rewarded for bowling with a lot of heart throughout the match when he had Daniel Lawrence trapped in front of the wicket with the one that snaked in.

That was wicket number 300 for Ishant, making him the sixth Indian and third pacer from the country to reach the landmark.

Ben Stokes could not replicate the form of his first innings as he played away from his body to give Rishabh Pant a catch off Ashwin.

As wickets kept falling at one end, skipper Joe Root (40 off 32 balls) looked like he was batting on a pitch different from the one where the ball was turning from one end to the

1st Test. Day 5
Live from 9:30am IST
STAR SPORTS 1 NETWORK

other, scoring runs without much ado.

With all the confidence in the world, first-innings double centurion Root swept and reverse swept the India spinners, including Ashwin, as runs came at a fast clip when he was in his element in the second session.

He not just negated but also attacked the spinners with aplomb but what Root could not tackle was a delivery that kept low on landing before thudding against the English run-machine's pads.

The umpire had no hesitation in raising his finger as Jasprit Bumrah appealed for an LBW.

Ollie Pope (28), Jos Buttler (24) and Dom Bess (25) made useful contributions, but England strangely kept on bat-

ting even after the lead crossed 350 and then 400 on a track which is expected to give the bowlers a lot of purchase on the final day.

While 16 wickets fell on the first three days, a staggering 15 fell by the wayside on Monday and the Chepauk pitch played a major part.

While Ashwin did an admirable job, India captain Virat Kohli may have missed a trick or two by not trying out Washington's off-breaks when left-arm spinner Shahbaz Nadeem was leaking runs, including overstepping on a few occasions and adding to his first innings no balls.

When India came out to bat again, left-arm spinner Jack Leach bowled Rohit with a peach of delivery that landed on the leg-stump before hitting the off-stump, the turn leaving the home team with plenty to worry about going into the final day's play.

AFP ■ RAWALPINDI

Medium pacer Hasan Ali took a maiden ten-wicket haul to help Pakistan win its first series against South Africa since 2003 with a 95-run victory in the second Test on the fifth and final day in Rawalpindi on Monday.

Hasan finished with 5-60 to record his best match figures of 10-114 and help dismiss South Africa — who were set a daunting 370 to chase — for 274 before the tea break.

Hasan's new-ball partner Shaheen Shah Afridi finished with 4-51, while spinner Yasir Shah took the last wicket to spark jubilation among the Pakistan players.

Opener Aiden Markram scored a fighting 108 and Temba Bavuma 61.

They put on a 106-run stand for the fourth wicket to give Pakistan a scare.

Markram took a single off the last ball before lunch as South Africa reached the break on 219-3, needing 151 for a win.

But Hasan ripped through the tourists' batting order, which lost seven wickets for



just 33 runs with the second new ball.

Hasan struck with the second over of the new ball to end Markram's resistance by getting the opener caught in the slip and end his 335-minute fight.

Markram's fifth Test century — the first outside South Africa — included 13 boundaries and three sixes.

Next ball, Hasan had Quinton de Kock caught in the slip for nought, ending South African skipper's miserable series with just 46 runs.

Hasan dismissed George Linde for four to record his third five-wicket haul as he improved upon his previous best match figures of 7-83 against New Zealand in Abu Dhabi in 2018.

This is Pakistan's only second Test series win over South Africa in 12 attempts, having lost eight and drawn three.

Pakistan last beat South Africa 1-0 in a two-match series at home in 2003.

The series win also lifts Pakistan to fifth in international Test rankings — the first time they have placed in the top five since January 2017.

'Wish to see Ishant get 400 Test wickets'

PTI ■ CHENNAI

Ishant Sharma's work ethic has been exemplary over the last 14 years, feels Ravichandran Ashwin, who wishes to see his India teammate enter the 400-wicket club and set a benchmark for the emerging quacks of this country.

Ishant, the most-capped Test player in this current line-up, on Monday, became the third Indian pacer after Kapil Dev (434 wickets) and Zaheer Khan (311) to reach the 300-wicket milestone.

"Look, Ishant has been one of the most hard-working cricketers, that I have seen in that Indian team dressing room.

"He has worked extremely hard, for more than just one rea-

son, because being that tall (6 ft 4 inch) itself requires a lot of facets to be managed through a career which is spanned out through almost 14 years now," said Ashwin.

Ishant is only two short of 100 Test appearances and will only be the second pace bowler from India to achieve that coveted landmark.

For Ashwin, that itself is a measure of his achievement.

"Ishant, who went to Australia and got Ricky Ponting out (in 2007-08), and then has gone through so many other tours, had his fair share of injuries, for a fast bowler to get close to 100 Tests in India is not a joke and it is fantastic fantastic achievement,"

said the wily off-spinner.

"I can keep going on and keep complimenting Ishant, but I really wish to see him get to 400 and probably 500 wickets, which should be sort of road map for a lot of Indian quacks going forward."

So what's it that makes Ishant Sharma special as a person?

"If I have to say something about Ishant, his biggest plus is the smile. He is ever smiling. Even if he is very tired, he is smiling."



SINGLES

HAMILTON SIGNS 1-YEAR MERCEDES DEAL
BRACKLEY: F1 world champion Lewis Hamilton will stay with Mercedes for a ninth season after signing a one-year deal, the team said on Monday. Since joining Mercedes for the 2013 season, Hamilton has won six world championship titles — moving him level with Michael Schumacher on a record seven for his career.

"Our team has achieved incredible things together and we look forward to building on our success even further, while continuously looking to improve, both on and off the track," said Hamilton, who has won 74 races with Mercedes.

REF DEAN REPORTS DEATH THREATS
LONDON: Premier League referee Mike Dean has reported receiving death threats to the police after being targeted through his family's social media accounts. The menacing messages were received after Dean sent off West Ham's Tomas Soucek in Saturday's game against Fulham. The red card was overturned on appeal on Monday, just like the one shown to Saints' Jan Bednarek at Man United on Tuesday.

MPCA REMOVES CRICKET COMMITTEE
INDORE: The Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association (MPCA) has removed its three-member cricket committee which had questioned the appointment of senior team's head coach Chandrakant Pandit last year. The three-member committee comprising former domestic players, Prashant Dwivedi, Yogesh Golwalkar and Murtaza Ali, was elected in October 2019 for a period of three years. The committee had raised questions on the appointment of Pandit in July last year and had alleged that it was kept in the dark over his appointment.

AITA LINES UP 78 TOURNEYS FOR NEXT MONTH
NEW DELHI: Indian tennis will be buzzing with a lot of activity next month with 78 tournaments, including the pending 2020 National Championships and six ITF tournaments, set to unfold across the country. After the 2020 calendar was thrown haywire by the pandemic, AITA is clearing the backlog and has scheduled the men's and women's National Hard Court Championships from March 15. The other age category Nationals will be played through the month. There will be 45 ranking series events too — 10 Talent series, 3 Championship series and one National series, according to the AITA's planned calendar.

ICC ANNOUNCES BYJU'S AS GLOBAL PARTNER
DUBAI: ICC has announced Indian edu-tech company BYJU'S as its global partner from 2021 to 2023. The three-year agreement will see BYJU'S partner all ICC events over the period, including the forthcoming men's T20 World Cup in India and the women's World Cup in New Zealand. As a global partner, BYJU'S will have extensive in-venue, broadcast, and digital rights across all ICC events.

MBAPPE, ICARDI SCORE IN PSG WIN
PARIS: Kylian Mbappe scored early on as Paris Saint-Germain eased to a 2-0 win at bitter rival Marseille in the French league. The contest was far removed from September's fiery meeting in Paris, when Marseille won 1-0 and five players were sent off on Sunday. Mbappe struck in the eighth minute with a confident finish after sprinting clear from near the halfway line, and strike partner Mauro Icardi flicked a looping header over goalkeeper Steve Mandanda in the 23rd. Marseille had Dimitri Payet sent off in the last minute for a crude challenge on Marco Verratti.

Tennis biggies off to flying Aus start

AP ■ MELBOURNE

It's been so long since he had a sizeable crowd to play for, the showman in Novak Djokovic just had to come out.

Top-ranked Djokovic has won eight titles at the Australian Open. He began his quest for a ninth with a clinical, 6-3, 6-1, 6-2 victory over Jeremy Chardy in the closing act of the day 1 program on Rod Laver Arena.

The total crowd Monday at Melbourne Park was 17,922, including day and night sessions in three divided zones. It was well down on the 64,387 fans that crammed onto the grounds on Day 1 of last year's Australian Open, but way more than any other major since then.

After an austere year for tennis during the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a unanimous refrain from players across the day, starting with Naomi Osaka



in the opening match on Rod Laver, to Serena and Venus Williams, and to mercurial local favorite Nick Kyrgios, who closed the day on the so-called Peoples' court: Thanks for coming.

The state government is allowing up to 30,000 people per day into Melbourne Park, about

50% of capacity. There were no fans allowed at the U.S. Open, only about 1,000 per day were allowed at Roland Garros and Wimbledon was canceled.

But with the Australian Open starting three weeks later than usual - now it's outside the summer holidays - and some people



still nervous about going out in crowds following a harsh Melbourne lockdown last year, it was a predictably cautious start.

That wasn't the case at all for Serena Williams, who arrived ready to race to start her bid for a record-equaling 24th Grand Slam singles title.

In a colorful one-legged cat-suit she said was inspired by former Olympic champion Florence Griffith Joyner, Williams dropped her opening serve but rebounded to win 10 consecutive games and

beat Laura Siegemund 6-1, 6-1.

As she left the court she flexed her biceps, and later donned a T-shirt that read "Unstoppable Queen."

Speed was of the essence also for No. 2-ranked Simona Halep and No. 3 Osaka, who each only dropped three games.

U.S. Open champion Osaka beat Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 6-1, 6-2, and two-time major winner Halep opened the night session on the main show court with a 6-2, 6-1 win over Australian wild-card entry Lizette Cabrera.

Joining them in the second round were No. 7 Aryna Sabalenka, two-time Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova, French Open winner Iga Swiatek and 2019 U.S. Open champion Bianca Andreescu, who returned from 15 months on the sidelines to beat Mihaela Buzarnescu 6-2, 4-6, 6-3. Rebecca Marino, a former top-40 player competing in a Grand

Slam event for the first time in eight years, beat Kimberly Birrell 6-0, 7-6 (9).

Venus Williams, a seven-time major winner, won a Grand Slam match for the first time since 2019.

Playing in her 21st Australian Open, the elder Williams beat Kirsten Flipkens 7-5, 6-2. At 40, Venus is the oldest woman in this year's draw and just the sixth player in her 40s to compete at the Australian Open.

U.S. Open champion Dominic Thiem was a break down and saved set points before beating veteran Mikhail Kukushkin 7-6 (2), 6-2, 6-3 in his first match at the tournament since losing last year's final to Novak Djokovic.

Alexander Zverev, who lost the final to Thiem in New York, lost the first set in a tiebreaker then lost his temper in the second and belted his racket into the court.

Man City finally win at Anfield



AFP ■ LIVERPOOL

Manchester City ended an 18-year wait to beat Liverpool at Anfield in style with a 4-1 win on Sunday to take a firm grip on the Premier League title race.

Ilkay Gundogan scored twice and missed a penalty as Pep Guardiola's men moved five points clear of Manchester United, with a

game in hand to come, at the top of the table.

A third consecutive home defeat leaves Liverpool 10 points off the top in fourth, having also played a game more than City.

Raheem Sterling and the outstanding Phil Foden were also on target for the visitors on a day to forget for Liverpool goalkeeper Alisson Becker, who was at

fault for three of City's goals. After a club record-breaking run of 68 league games unbeaten at Anfield, Liverpool have now lost three consecutive home league games for the first time since 1963.

The margin of defeat was also the Reds' biggest in the Premier League era as City landed a knockout blow to their title defence.

City's club record run of 14 consecutive wins, 10 of which have come in the league, has seen them pull away from the pack at the top of the table from what seemed a wide-open title race just a few weeks ago.

That run is reminiscent of the City and Liverpool sides at their best over the past three seasons as they have run up record points tallies in combining to win the last three league titles.

However, Liverpool appear to have run out of gas in an injury-hit campaign after ending a 30-year wait to win a league title by taking City's crown as champions last season.

Chelsea up to 5th

AFP ■ SHEFFIELD

Chelsea's revival under Thomas Tuchel continued as the Blues closed to within a point of the top four with a hard-fought 2-1 win at bottom-of-the-table Sheffield United.

Mason Mount's well-worked opener just before half-time was cancelled out by a bizarre own goal from Antonio Rudiger as Chelsea conceded for the first time in four games under Tuchel.

But Jorginho's penalty quickly restored the visitors' lead and they held out for a third win in four games since the German replaced the sacked Frank Lampard.

Chelsea are now breathing down Liverpool's necks for a place in next season's Champions League.

Tuchel has benefited from a kind run of fixtures to bed himself into English football, but the former Paris Saint-Germain manager has quickly implemented his ideas, even if it has come at the cost of a number of big names.

N'Golo Kante and Hakim Ziyech were again left on the bench, while there was no place in the squad for Kai Havertz or Christian Pulisic.

Super-sub Messi leads Barca comeback



AFP ■ SEVILLE

Lionel Messi came off the bench to inspire Barcelona to a 3-2 victory over Real Betis on Sunday, as Ronald Koeman's rotation gamble just about paid off.

Messi was among several key players rested, with

Koeman seemingly prioritising Wednesday's Copa del Rey semi-final against Sevilla ahead of Barca's fading title challenge in La Liga.

Defeat would have called that decision into question but Messi drove in an equaliser two minutes after coming on in the second half and then helped set up Francisco Trincao to score a late winner and his first Barcelona goal.

Koeman's side sit seven points behind La Liga leaders Atletico Madrid, who have played two games fewer and face Celta Vigo at home on Monday night.

Success also came at a cost as Barca's best available central defender Ronald Araujo was forced off with an ankle injury early on.

With Gerard Pique already a long-term absentee, Araujo's fitness will be a huge concern, especially with a Champions League last 16 first leg at home to Paris Saint-Germain to come, a week after the test against Sevilla.