

OPINION 6
TIME TO LOOK
AND ACT EAST**WORLD 8**
OLI IN NO MOOD TO RESIGN,
READY TO FACE PARL: OFFICIAL**SPORT 12**
CHELSEA BEAT
ATLETICO IN CLPublished From
DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR
RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH
DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA*Late City Vol. 14 Issue 54
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RANCHI, THURSDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2021; PAGES 12 ₹3

the pioneer

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AMITABH
HINTS AT NEW
BEGINNINGS
10 VIVACITY

Jab for 45+ with comorbidities or 60+ from Mar 1

Free shots in 10,000 Govt hospitals, at a fee in pvt ones

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Everyone above 60 years of age and those over 45 years with comorbidities will be able to get Covid-19 vaccine from March 1 for free in 10,000 Government medical facilities and for a charge at over 20,000 private hospitals, the Government said on Wednesday.

The rate for vaccines will be decided by the Health Ministry within the next three-four days as discussions are on with manufacturers as well as hospitals, said the Ministry.

The Cabinet, which met under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, took a decision in this regard, Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar said at a media briefing here.

"The second phase of the world's largest vaccination drive will start from Monday in which anybody above 60 years, that may not be less than 10 crore people in the country, and 45 years plus with co-morbidities will be given vaccines in 10,000 Government medical facilities and also over 20,000 private hospitals," he said.

"Whoever goes to the Government centre will be administered a vaccine free of cost. The Indian Government will pay for them. The Government will purchase the necessary doses and will send



them to all the States," Javadekar said.

Those who want to get vaccinated from private hospitals will have to pay, but the amount will be decided by the Health Ministry within the next three-four days as they are in discussion with manufacturers as well as hospitals, he said.

Asked if people will have a choice on which vaccine — Covishield or Covaxin — they want to take, Javadekar said India is proud to have two vac-

cines which are both effective with proven efficacy.

While Oxford-AstraZeneca's Covishield is being manufactured by the Serum Institute, Covaxin is being produced by Bharat Biotech.

Javadekar said the world's largest vaccination drive started on January 16 with 1,07,67,000 people vaccinated and 14 lakh also having received a second dose.

"This section was primar-

ily for health workers and frontline workers and the whole expenditure was borne by the Government, they were vaccinated free," he said.

Javadekar asserted that the vaccination in India has been successful, "faultless with hardly any complaints".

Asked whether Ministers and the Prime Minister, who would now be in the category of those who can take the vaccination, will get inoculated, Javadekar said those who want

INDIA ON THE MEND

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to take the vaccination will take it at the place of their choosing from March 1.

Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, who also briefed the media on the Cabinet decisions, said most of the Ministers are of the thinking that they will pay to get vaccinated.

The decision came as India's cumulative vaccination coverage has crossed 1.14 crore recipients.

8 more States witness upsurge in Covid cases

Centre rushes high-level teams to tackle crisis

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After Maharashtra and Kerala, at least eight more States — Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Punjab, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir — have started reporting a surge in fresh coronavirus infections.

A worried Centre has rushed high-level multi-disciplinary teams to these States for supporting them in public health measures for targeted Covid-19 response and management, and effectively tackling the pandemic.

It has warned the States that slacking off on rules and measures to check infection will escalate the crisis, given the emergence of new virus strains.

Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan has also written to seven States and Union Territories on the recent spurt in virus cases and has advised



Municipal workers sanitise a platform at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus in the view of the rising number of Covid-19 cases in Mumbai on Wednesday PTI

specific steps.

AIIMS Director Randeep Guleria has already sounded the alarm, warning that India is also vulnerable to the second wave of coronavirus and people should continue to follow social distancing, wearing mask and other precautions. His statement comes against the backdrop of a recent medical survey that has shown that over 70 per cent of the Indian population is still susceptible to Covid-19.

Dr RK Dhamija, Head of Neurology Department and

public health expert from Dr Lady Hardinge Hospital in New Delhi, did not rule out further surge in the cases and advised the Government to regularly conduct genome testing of the positive Covid cases. He also suggested that focus should be on hotspots, which contribute to between 70-80 per cent of cases, and those pockets in the States which have high number of people with comorbidities such as diabetes and stroke should be given preference in vaccination.



Chief Minister Hemant Soren attends Sikaripara MLA Nalin Soren's granddaughter Many's birthday celebrations in Ranchi on Wednesday

Pioneer photo

Covid-19: Vigil intensified as cases rise in Capital

TESTING RATE TO INCREASE

PNS ■ RANCHI

The State Government has intensified vigil on visitors from other states in the wake of a rise in cases of Covid-19 infection in several States including Maharashtra, which has direct flights to Ranchi, officials said on Wednesday.

The health machinery in Jharkhand is primarily focusing on the Covid trend in Ranchi — the only district which has direct connectivity with almost all the major cities in India. While the testing rate here is likely to be increased, the district administration has also made Covid tests mandatory for passengers landing at the Birsa Munda Airport from states that have witnessed a spike in cases, officials said.

"Tests are being conducted at the airport as well as railway stations in Ranchi for passengers coming from states which have reported a sudden spike in cases," said Ranchi Civil Surgeon, Dr VB Prasad.

Ranchi is not only the district with highest number of



A medic worker administers Covid-19 vaccine dose to a woman official at Sadar Hospital in Ranchi on Wednesday Pioneer photo

active cases in Jharkhand, but also the second worst-affected in terms of Covid casualties. As per figures with the National Health Mission (NHM), at least 261 of Jharkhand's 447 active Covid patients were residents of Ranchi.

The district has also reported 244 Covid casualties,

which is only lower than East Singhbhum's 356 Covid fatalities reported so far.

While the trajectory of active cases in the capital witnessed a downward trend in the first week of February, cases have been on the rise here lately, becoming a cause for concern for the health machin-

ery. As per Government data, the number of active cases in Ranchi had dropped below 200 on February 6. However, the trend of fresh cases outnumbering Covid recoveries has caused a spike of more than 60 in the number of active cases in hardly 18 days here.

Owing to the rise in active cases, the district administration has intensified Covid testing here. At least 17 new Covid testing centres were set up across the district to ensure that at least 1,000 people are tested for Covid-19 in Ranchi every day. Health officials said that Ranchi may witness a further surge in Covid cases due to the increase in the number of testing.

Ranchi is the only district in Jharkhand with a triple-digit count of active cases. East Singhbhum, the district with the second highest number of active cases, had only 61 patients, as per an NHM bulletin released on Wednesday morning.

Ranchi has the only airport in Jharkhand which ferries patients to cities like Mumbai, New Delhi, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad and Bangalore — the cities that have witnessed a spike in Covid cases lately.

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Leading the Power Sector

Steel City being decked up for Founder’s Day celebration



PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

With spirits undeterred by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Steel City is being decked up to pay tributes to the founder Jamsteji Nusserwanji Tata on his birth anniversary on March 3. Several roads, roundabouts and other institutions of Tata Steel are being lit up for the occasion.

Keeping in mind the prevailing situation of pandemic, Tata Steel has decided to cancel public functions and celebrate the day with a limited number of people at its different locations.

According to officials, with Covid-19 guidelines in place, the company has decided to give mass gathering a skip. Most of the events planned inside the steel works will be limited to paying floral tribute to the founder.

Founder’s Day was first instituted by Tata Steel on March 3, 1932. It was D N Madan, Chief Accountant, Tata Iron and Steel Company, who first conceived the idea of observing and celebrating an annual gathering to commemorate the birth anniversary of J.N. Tata

The pioneering industrialist, who founded the Tata Group, had written to his son about his dream of a big city in the erstwhile village of Sakchi, which was finally renamed as Jamshedpur in 1919 by a

British statesman.

Founder’s Day was first instituted by Tata Steel on March 3, 1932. It was D N Madan, Chief Accountant, Tata Iron and Steel Company, who first conceived the idea of observing and celebrating an annual gathering to commemorate the birth anniversary of J.N. Tata. Founder’s day provided him with an opportunity of expressing his regard for the memory of the genius to whose faith and adjustment, energy and perseverance, the works, the towns and the environs of Jamshe­d­pur bear enduring witness.

“Like every year work is in full progress for Founder’s Day. Work is carried out on a war footing to complete widening work of important roads. Several artilleries are getting a facelift too,” said an official.

2 miners dead in mines accident at Moonidih mines

PANKAJ KUMAR ■ DHANBAD

Two coal miners both of a private coal mining firm engaged by the Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) died in a mine accident at Moonidih mines claimed to be the most mechanised and modern underground mines of the company.

The accident took place at XVth seam of the mines while the workers were cutting coal to extend the air way."There was a side fall that proved fatal", claimed BCCL management in a press statement. The accident took place during the night shift.

While one of the miners Vijay Yadav (45) died on the way to hospital, the second miner Nirmal Gorian (32), who was undergoing treatment at ICU at the central hospital died on Wednesday according to a statement released by Western Jharia area authorities of the company.

Meanwhile, it has been decided to pay Rs 15 lakh each to family members of both the victim miners who died in the accident.This was decided during a meeting called by BCCL comprising union leaders, family members, private company authorities and BCCL authorities.

Besides, the private mining company will also pay Rs one lakh each to both victim families for holding funerals of victim miners.

In addition, the BCCL management has decided to bear all educational expenses of the wards of both victims up to class 12th. All eligible wards of both would be admitted to DAV school. In another move the company has also decided to hold a high level inquiry into the accident in addition to the statutory inquiry that is to be taken by the director general of mines safety (DGMS).

13 cyber criminals arrested by Deoghar police

PNS ■ DEOGHAR

Deoghar police Cyber Cell on Tuesday and Wednesday night raided within limits of Narayanpur police station of Jamtara district and also raided at Jagadeh, Digbad, Nagadri, Karhaiya, Dindakoli and Tulsitand villages and Pindari village of Sarath police station, Pattadda village of Karuna police station and also raided at Jhunaki village and Basha village of Palojori police station and arrested 13 cyber criminals.

The arrested accused include Sunil Kumar Mandal, Sunil Kumar, Vasudeo Mandal, Radhe Mandal, Raghu Mandal, Younus Ansari, Santosh Napeet, Mukesh Kumar, Gautam Kumar, Prashant Singh, Vishu Das, Vikas Goswami and Itlaf Mian.Police have recovered Rs 16, 500 cash including 28 mobiles, 44 SIM cards, 05 passbooks, 04



checkbooks, 07 ATM Cards, 2 two-wheelers and a four wheeler.

Cyber DySP Neha Bala, DySP HQRS Mangal Singh, Jamuda, Cyber Inspector Sangeeta Kumari Police Station In-Charge Kalim Ansari along with other police officials have raided in various vil-

lages of Narayanpur, Palojori, Karon Sarath and Pattarda OP Police Station area and 13 cyber accused have been arrested.

SP, Deoghar informed that these people have become as customer service officers of various banks and call people on their mobiles in the name of KYC update and get all the information of the bank and empty the amount kept in the account of the people within minutes.

Not only this, these people go to the site of various electronic Apps on Google search table and put their mobile number in place of the customer officer’s number,

added the SP. When a customer considers that number to be the customer service officer, and after getting into his deception, he shares all the information with him from Aadhaar number etc. and clears his linked account in minutes.

Illicit liquor factory busted in Garhwa

NN DUBEY ■ GARHWA

In a joint raid Excise Department and Meral police busted an illicit liquor factory at Rajbandha village under Meral police limit on Tuesday late evening. With the arrest of one person in the connection, the department also seized 3800 liter illicit wine labeled as Royal stag brand, 4200 liters of spirit and other manufacturing tools.

The raid was carried out by police personnel in close coordination with the excise department, Excise SP Sujit Kumar said. One person Rajbali Bhuiyan was arrested in the connection, Kumar added.

Giving details of the raid, on receiving secret information, the team was

keeping an eye on the whole matter for a week. Despite this, only a caretaker was caught by the team. The liquor made here was sent to UP and Bihar.

This work was being done here for a few days. It is being questioned. Action will be taken by identifying the people involved in it, Kumar added.

One water RO plant, one water tank, 45 empty bottles, one set seal machine etc were recovered from the site.



Volleyball match at BSF, Meru centre

PNS ■ HAZARIBAG

The Border Security Force Training Center and School, Meru, Hazaribag organised a volleyball match on Wednesday evening. In the



final match the specialized Training School defeated the Subsidiary Training center by 3-1. The commandant cum IG, Ravi Gandhi handed over the trophy to the winning team.

On this occasion, Gandhi said that sports is an important part of the life of jawans. All jawans must be involved in sports so that they can always be physically fit in their lives. He also appreciated the efforts and training on the players provided by the coach.

Gandhi said that they will start special training for the dependent of the jawans for their livelihood.

On this occasion the officers of both the wings were present and appreciated the spirit of the players.

18 GMs of BSL promoted as CGMs



PNS ■ BOKARO

According to the promotion order issued by SAIL on 24 February, 18 General Managers of Bokaro Steel Plant have been promoted to Chief General Manager.

Among the promoters, VP Upadhyay was given the Chief General Manager (Refractory), PS Kanan as Chief General Manager (RCL), JV Shekhar as Chief General Manager (Shops and Foundries), Shaligram Singh as Chief General Manager (CED), RK Srivastava to Chief General Manager (MRD), Rakesh Kumar to Chief General Manager (Coke Ovens and B. PP), Anil Kumar to Chief General Manager (Materials Management), M.P. Singh to Chief General Manager (Blast Furnace), Deepak Rai Chief General Manager (HRCF), AK Jha to Chief General Manager (Traffic), Laxmi Das to Chief General Manager (Director in-charge Secretariat), BK Behera to Chief General Manager

(Sinter Plant), Niranjan Kumar to Chief General Manager (HRD), Alak Sadhu has been promoted to the post of Chief General Manager (Power Facilities), Sharad Gupta as Chief General Manager (Water Management) and Dr. P. Sharma as Chief Medical Officer (Medical and Health Services).

Afternoon BSL Director-in-Charge Amarendra Prakash gave promotion orders to all the newly promoted Chief General Managers. On this occasion, Executive Director (works) Atanu Bhowmik, Executive Director (Medical and Health Services) Dr. AK Singh, Executive Director (Projects) and Additional Charge (Personnel and Administration) R Kushwaha, Chief General Manager, and newly CGM were present. DIC Prakash congratulated the newly promoted officers and expressed confidence that they would actively contribute in taking BSL to greater heights in their new role.

उपायुक्त का कार्यालय, सरायकेला-खरसावाँ (समाज कल्याण)

प्रेस विज्ञप्ति

राज्य निःशक्तता आयुक्त, महिला, बाल विकास एवं सामाजिक सुरक्षा विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची का पत्र संख्या—236 / रा0नि0आ0, दिनांक—23.02.2021 द्वारा सरायकेला—खरसावाँ जिला के दिव्यांगजनों के मामलों का निष्पादन एवं दिव्यांगता प्रमाण पत्र बनाने हेतु दिनांक—26.02. 2021 को 09:00 बजे पूर्वाह्न से चांडिल डाकबंगला स्थित सामुदायिक भवन में चलन्त न्यायालय (Mobile Court) सह जागरूकता शिविर का आयोजन किया गया है, जिसमें अधिक से अधिक निःशक्तजन उपस्थित होकर अपनी समस्याओं को चलन्त न्यायालय (Mobile Court) में निष्पादन हेतु अपना पक्ष रख सकते हैं तथा दिव्यांगता प्रमाण पत्र से वंचित निःशक्तजन अपना दिव्यांगता प्रमाण पत्र बनवा सकते हैं।

—ह0—
जिला समाज कल्याण पदाधिकारी
सरायकेला—खरसावाँ।
PR 242398 (Women, Child Development & Social Security) 20-21 (D)

कार्यालय नगर परिषद्, लोहरदगा

लोहरदगा नगर परिषद् अन्तर्गत जल उपभोक्ताओं के लिए आवश्यक सूचना

प्रेस विज्ञप्ति

नगर विकास एवं आवास विभाग, झारखण्ड सरकार, राँची के अधिसूचना संख्या— Juideo Ltd/Water/supply/ userchargespolicy/2619/2020/3427 रॉची, दिनांक—31.12.2020 के तहत लोहरदगा नगरपरिषद् क्षेत्रान्तर्गत सभी जल उपभोक्ताओं को सूचित किया जाता है कि सरकार द्वारा अधिसूचित झारखण्ड नगरपालिका जल कार्य, जल अभिमार एवं जल संयोजन नियमावली 2020 के तहत जल उपभोग के लिए निम्न प्रक्रिया के तहत जल संयोजन एवं पुराना/ नये जलकर का भुगतान करना होगा।

जिसके उपधारा 04. के तहत आवासीय संयोजन, वणिज्यिक संयोजन, औद्योगिक संयोजन तथा सांस्थिक एवं सरकारी संयोजन स्वीकृत किये जायेंगे। उपधारा 05. के तहत जल संयोजन हेतु ऑनलाईन आवेदन एवं शुल्क का भुगतान किया जाएगा।

अंतिम आदेश पारित किये जाने के 15 दिनों के अंदर ISI प्रमाणित मीटर के साथ नगर परिषद् से अनुज्ञप्तिधारी प्लम्बर के द्वारा जल संयोजन अधिष्ठापित करते हुए इसकी सूचना लोहरदगा नगर परिषद् को समर्पित करना अनिवार्य होगा। उपधारा 10.जल संयोजन अधिष्ठापन शुल्कः—

Description	Criteria (built up area)	Connection Fees
आवासीय उपभोक्ता	Up to 1000 sqft	7000
	1001 to 3000 sqft	14000
	3001 to 5000 sqft	28000
	Above 5000 sqft	42000
सांस्थिक एवं सरकारी उपभोक्ता	Buit up area (BA)	26 Rs/sqft
वणिज्यिक उपभोक्ता	Buit up area (BA)	26 Rs/sqft
औद्योगिक उपभोक्ता	Buit up area (BA)	26 Rs/sqft

BPL परिवारों के लिए जल संयोजन निःशुल्क होगा।

उपधारा 11.जल संयोजन मासिक शुल्कः—

i.मीटर युक्त जल संयोजन का दर निम्नवत् होगीः—

क्र0 सं0	इकाई (लि0)	आवासीय	संस्थागत	व्यवसायिक	औद्योगिक
		APL	BPL		
01	5000 लीटर तक	निः शुल्क		8.4 / 1000 ली0	14 / 1000 लीटर
02	5000 से 50,000 L तक	रू0 7 / 1000 ली		8.4 / 1000 ली	14 / 1000 लीटर
03	50,000 से 5,00,000 L तक	8.4 / 1000 ली	3.50/1000 ली	10.08 / 1000 ली	16.80 / 1000 ली
04	5,00,000 L से ज्यादा	10.50 / 1000 ली		12.60 / 1000 ली	21 / 1000 ली

उपधारा 14. मासिक जल संयोजन शुल्क भुगतान नहीं किए जाने पर दण्डः—

1.लागतार छः माह तक शुल्क भुगतान नहीं किए जाने की स्थिति में उपभोक्ता का जल संयोजन बाधित कर दी जाएगी एवं बकाया राशि दो गुना दर से वसूल की जाएगी साथ ही ऐसी स्थिति में उपभोक्ता को पुनः नये जल संयोजन अधिष्ठापित करना अनिवार्य होगा।

उपधारा16.अवैध जल संयोजन को वैध मीटर युक्त जल संयोजन में परिवर्तित किए जाने की प्रक्रिया (अधिसूचना की पूर्णप्रति देखना अनिवार्य है)

अवैध जल संयोजन के संबंध में जुर्माने की राशि उपभोक्ता से निम्न प्रकार वसूली की जाएगीः—

क्र0 सं0	उपभोक्ता का प्रकार	जुर्माने की राशि	प्रथम किश्त की राशि एवं समय	द्वितीय किश्त	तृतीय किश्त
01	घरेलुउपभोक्ता	4,000	1800 /— रू0 (अवैध कनेक्शन पाये जाने से एक सप्ताह के अंदर)	1200 /— रू0 (अवैध कनेक्शन पाये जाने से अगले माह के अंदर)	1200 /— रू0 (अवैध कनेक्शन पाये जाने से दुसरे माह के अंदर)
02	गैर घरेलु उपभोक्ता (औद्योगिक, वणिज्यिक एवं सरकारी)	10,000	4000 /— रू0 (अवैध कनेक्शन पाये जाने से एक सप्ताह के अंदर)	3000 /— रू0 (अवैध कनेक्शन पाये जाने से अगले माह के अंदर)	13000 /— रू0 (अवैध कनेक्शन पाये जाने से दुसरे माह के अंदर)

उपभोक्ता द्वारा एकमुश्त जुर्माना की राशि भुगतान किये जाने पर जुर्माने के कुल राशि पर 10% की छुट दी जाएगी।

i. अधिसूचना के लागू होने के छः माह के अन्दर अवैध जल संयोजन (घरेलु/ गैर घरेलु) के उपभोक्ताओं द्वारा स्वयं की अवैध जल संयोजन की स्वीकरोक्ति एवं नये जल संयोजन हेतु नगरपालिका के समक्ष आवेदन किये जाने की स्थिति में उप कडिका—i में प्रावधानित जुर्माना राशि की आधा राशि उपभोक्ता से वसूल की जाएगी।

नोट—विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए अधिसूचना सं0—3427, दिनांक—31.12.2020 की पूर्ण प्रति कार्यालय सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी
नगर परिषद्, लोहरदगा
PR 242350 Lohardaga (20-21) D

VINOBA BHAVE UNIVERSITY, HAZARIBAG RE-TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders (In Two Bid System) are invited from the ISO Certified Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) or their Authorized Dealer for the Supply, Installation and Commissioning of online UPS and battery for the operation of digital boards. [Approx, quantity 50 or above for University Departments and Constituent Colleges at various location under Vinoba Bhave University, Hazaribag.

Interested agencies may visit our University website- www.vbu.ac.in for details.

Note: Vinoba Bhave University, Hazaribag reserves the right to cancel the tender at any stage of tender process.

By order of the Vice-Chancellor
Sd/-
Registrar

Memo No. VBU/RUSA/R/472/2021, Date: 23.02.2021

सेन्ट्रल बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया Regional Office Ranchi

POSSESSION NOTICE
Whereas, Under rule 8(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 The undersigned being the authorized officer of the **CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act No. 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice calling upon the borrower and Guarantor to repay amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days (sixty days) from the date of receipt of the said notice with future interest and incidental charges. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower / guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned have taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules.

The borrower / guarantor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of the **CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA**.

SL. No.	Name of the Borrower / Branch	Amount	Date of - 13 (2) Notice / Possession Date	Details of Property
1.	M/s S.B Sales Prop. Mr. Umesh Jaishwal Sukhdeonagar Branch	Rs.8,15,916.00 (Rupees Eight Lakh Fifteen Thousand Nine Hundred Sixteen Only) as on 02/02/2019 + plus interest and incidental expenses incurred by bank w.e.f 03/02/2019.	02.02.2019	EM of land vide sale deed no. 7643 dated: 07/05/2008 in the name of Sunita Jaishwal W/o Umesh Jaishwal, Mauza: Hesal, Thana : Sukhdeonagar, Thana No. 202, Khata No. 11, Plot No. 897(Part), Area: 1.75 Katha, Bounded by - North : Proposed Road, South : Madan Choudhary, East - Part Plot No.897, West : Digamber Sahu
2.	Mrs. Sunita Jaishwal, W/o Umesh Jaishwal Sukhdeonagar Branch	Rs.7,17,682.00 (Rupees Seven Lakh Seventeen Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Two Only) as on 02/02/2019 plus interest and incidental expenses incurred by bank w.e.f.03/02/2019	20.02.2021	

Place : Ranchi
Date : 24.02.2021

Sd/- Authorized Officer
Central Bank of India



झारखण्ड बिजली वितरण निगम लिमिटेड
(CIN: U40108JH2013SGC001702)
वित्तुत आपूर्ति अंचल 33/11 के 0 मी० वित्तुत उपकेंद्र, डेंडीडीह, गिरिडीह, पिन-815302
GSTIN No. 20AADCJ3148ADZ1Email:- ese.escgiriidih@gmail.com

वित्तुत विपत्र भुगतान संबंधी सूचना

एतद द्वारा सूचित किया जाता हैं वित्तुत आपूर्ति अंचल के अंतर्गत निम्नलिखित उपभोक्ताओं का वित्तुत विपत्र के विरुद्ध अधिक बकाया हो गया हैं। अतः सभी उपभोक्ताओं से अनुरोध हैं कि अपने वित्तुत विपत्र के बकाये का भुगतान जल्द से जल्द कराये अन्यथा उनका वित्तुत संबंध विच्छेद कर दिया जाएगा। सूचित निम्न हैं :-

List of HT Consumer Under Electric Supply Circle, Giriidih having dues under "Name & Shame Campaign"			
SL. No.	Consumer No.	Consumer Name & Address	Arrear
1	GRD 26 HTS	M/S Assistant Engineer Phone, Telephone Exchange, Giriidih	475268.00
2	GRD 37 HTS	M/S vinayak Mica Export Co., Sihodih, P.O. - Sirsia, Giriidih	94580.00
3	GRD 100 HTS	M/s Guru Nank Steel, At. Bishwasdih, Post-Gadisrirampur P.S.- Giriidih Muffasil, Giriidih	415339
4	GRD 36 HT	M/s Bhardwaj Steel Pvt. Ltd., Mangrodih, P.o.- Daridih, Giriidih	9,11,160.00
5	GRD 83 HTS	M/s Kohinoor Steels, Manjhaladhi, P.o.-Gadi Srirampur, Giriidih	6,20,593.00
6	GRDN 01 HTS	M/s Jamamo Mata Stone Works, c/o- Dinesh Sharma, Khoro, Tisri, Giriidih	1,48,860.00
7	GRD 94 HTS	Smt. Roshni Lodha, W/o- Gopal Lodha, Bazar Kolkata, Padam Chowk, Giriidih	5,03,838.00
8	GRD 82 HTS	M/s Hotel Ashoka International, Gandhi Chowk, Giriidih	4,70,515.00
9	GRD 99 HTS	M/s Antra Chaterjee, At- S/o-Tapas Chatargee, Sihodih (rural), Giriidih.	2,88,817.00
10	GRD 101 HTS	M/s Arun Kumar Ladyia, At- Udnabad, Giriidih (Muffasil)-815302	3,54,195.00
11	GRD 103 HTS	M/s Ajit Kumar Saha, At- S/o- Jagdish Saw, Udnabad, P.S.- Muffasil, Giriidih-815302.	3,61,237.00
12	MDB 01 HTS	M/s Sri Digambar jain Saswat Trust, Madhuban, P.O. - Sikharjee, Giriidih Pin :- 825167	51,474.00
13	GRD 89 HTS	M/s Kasturi Multi Solution Pvt. Ltd., HarsinghRaidih, P.O. - Budhiadih, Giriidih	10,30,897.00
Total=			57,26,773.00

Note: Kindly ignore if already paid

स्वहित एवं राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचावें। कृपया अपनी शिकायतों को टोल फ्री नं० 1800 345 6570 पर दर्ज करायें।

PR 242441 (Jharkhand Bijlee Vitran Nigam Ltd) 20-21 (D)

ह0 /—
वित्तुत अधीक्षण अभियंता
वित्तुत आपूर्ति अंचल, गिरिडीह

Prepare early replies of MLAs’ questions: Speaker to officers

BUDGET SESSION

PNS ■ RANCHI

Jharkhand Assembly speaker, Rabintra Nath Mahato on Wednesday convened a high level meeting ahead of Budget Session. Speaker on the occasion issued some directives asking departmental staff and officers for early replies of 1500 pending questions asked in the House.

The Speaker said that there are more than 1500 questions asked by legislators are pending in the House. He said, “This practice is not good in Parliamentary democracy, asking concerned departmental

officers and staff to prepare replies to the query and provide these replies to concerned law-makers so that ministers can reply to queries in the House.”

The speaker meeting was also attended by Parliamentary affairs minister Alamgir Alam and other senior officers. The speaker on the occasion also directed the DGP and secretaries of all departments present in the meeting to ensure smooth convening of the budget session.

The Jharkhand Assembly budget session will commence on February 26 and will run till March 23 which includes 16

working days. On the first day of the budget session there will be the Governor’s address on February 26, the next two days (February 27 and 28) will be no working days. The Hemant Soren government will table its second budget on March .

On the issue of Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the House, the speaker refused to say much stating that the matter is sub-judice in High Court. However, the Speaker said, “If the Opposition party comes up with another name for Leader of Opposition post he will be accorded the LoP post.”

The Speaker also said that according to the Constitution, the Speaker only decides on it. “We had also given notice but



Chief Minister Hemant Soren along with Assembly Speaker Rabintra Nath Mahato and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Alamgir Alam during all parties meeting ahead of the Budget Session at New Assembly building, Dhurwa Ranchi on Wednesday Vinay Murmu | Pioneer

the parties concerned went to the High Court and the Supreme Court. The matter is also going on in my tribunal. Likewise, it is too late. I wish

there was a decision on this soon,” added the Speaker.

The BJP has been demanding LoP status to Babulal

INBRIEF

SBI CGM PARTICIPATES IN ADVANTAGE DIALOGUE

In the sequel to Advantage Dialogue, Mahesh Goyal, Chief General Manager of State Bank of India, Patna Circle, discussed the topic “\$ 5 trillion economy and role of State Bank of India” with Moderator Nagma Sahar. In the course of the conversation, Goyal said that the banking business has accelerated after the lockdown and banks have done well in the third quarter. He said that SBI crossed the \$ 5 trillion figure in the housing loan segment to establish another milestone. In order to achieve the target of \$ 5 trillion economy by FY 2024, he termed investment in real estate, basic infrastructure etc. Discussing the contribution of State Bank of India in this direction, he said that State Bank, being the largest bank in the country, has always been playing an important role in the development of the country’s economy. By 2024, State Bank has targeted to cross \$ 4 trillion in the SME segment of its loan portfolio, \$ 6 trillion in personal loans and \$ 7 trillion in the home loan segment.



ARUN ARORA RECEIVES PRSI AWARD

Arun Arora, Director, Strategy and Communications, Mayv, New Delhi, received the PRSI National Leadership Award from Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal, Uttarakhand Governor Baby Rani Maurya and PRSI President Dr Ajit Pathak.



NSUI LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN FOR JOBS

NSUI’s campaign ‘Job do ya degree vapas lo’ was today launched by All India Congress spokesperson cum Jharkhand Professional congress Coordinator Easter Zarita Latiflong, JPCC spokesperson Alok Dubey, JPCC president Aditya Vikram Jaiswal, National Coordinator of NSUI Amarjeet Kumar among BAU students. National president of NSUI, Neeraj Kundan, has organized this campaign against the Central Government to raise the voice of the students and the unemployed. Latiflong said that this is a good campaign for NSUI, under which the voice of unemployed people will reach the Center. He said that the government, which has done the work of cheating two crore people every year in the name of employment, cannot be forgotten by the youth of this country and it is the right of the youth for employment, Congress will fight for it from the road to the Parliament.



MAN SHOT DEAD AT NIRSA

One Binod Jha (55) was shot dead by motorcycle borne assailants in a broad daylight incident that took place at Taldanga Housing colony under Nirsa police station located at distance of 40 kms from district headquarters. The victim was playing cards with some friends near the Durga Temple while the assailants pumped bullets from close range and escaped. Soon after police from Nirsa police station reached on spot and sent the body for post-mortem. Wife of the victim levelled allegation on a senior LJP leader Mintu Kaahyap with whom the victim once used to work as PA.

MPs, Railway officials discuss ways to improve services

Ranchi: In an attempt to improve passenger and goods facilities in the services of railway, a meeting of the Divisional Committee comprising of Members of Parliament (MPs) both from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha under jurisdiction of Chakradharpur and Ranchi Divisions of South Eastern Railway (SER) was held at Rourkela on Wednesday.



MPs and senior railway officials during a meeting on Wednesday Vinay Murmu | Pioneer

The Divisional Committee Meeting was chaired by Member of Parliament, Sundargarh, Odisha, Jual Oram. The other MPs who attended the meeting were Bidyut Baran Mahato, Geeta Koda, Bishweswar Tudu, Mamata Mahanta, Nitesh Ganga Deb, Suresh Pujari, Sanjay Seth, Mahesh Poddar,

joined the meeting through Video Conferencing. The MPs offered their valuable suggestions for overall development of SER.

The MPs praised the different works undertaken by Railways especially in respect of cleanliness of railway premises and station development. They also mentioned about

the dedicated service of the railway employees during the lock down and post lock down period especially in running of Parcel Express Trains carrying essential commodities and Shramik Special Trains for bringing back the migrant workers to their home states during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The MPs held discussions on various issues associated with train services, stoppages, passenger facilities and expedition completion of railway projects and others for the benefit of the passengers. The MPs of the Divisional Committee of Chakradharpur and Ranchi Divisions assured their cooperation for the smooth functioning of the rail-

way. General Manager, SER, Sanjay Kumar Mohanty while welcoming the MP highlighted the services rendered by SER to its users in respect of passenger amenities, resumption of trains in post lock down period, running of special trains, status of ongoing projects and others. General Manager also stated that the suggestions offered by the MPs for development of passenger amenities and railway infrastructure would be reviewed with proper importance.

The meeting was attended by the Divisional Railway Manager, Chakradharpur and Ranchi Divisions and all the Principal Head of the Departments of South Eastern Railway.

PNS

DAY CARE CENTRE AT RANCHI – A LIFELINE FOR THALASSEMIC CHILDREN

Patient from neighbouring States also getting treated

PNS ■ RANCHI

Shabana had come to the day-care centre at Sadar Hospital, Ranchi to get her 11-year-old child Irfan Ansari treated, who suffers from thalassemia. She lost her younger son to the same disease last year. She said, “My younger son Zishan died last year because of thalassemia. My husband works at a bicycle shop and we can’t afford the cost of the treatment. Someone told me about this centre at Sadar Hospital in Ranchi. I came here and I am getting my son the

needed treatment, free of cost.” Shabana’s story is one of the many examples of how the Government of Jharkhand is changing the narrative around health in the State by providing access to world-class health facilities and treatments.

There are other diseases associated with blood-transfusion such as sickle cell anaemia and haemophilia which are prevalent in the kids coming to the day-care centre established at Sadar Hospital for their treatment. Given its speciality in treating patients with blood-transfusion disorders, people from other states also visit this centre. The day care centre has a capacity of 100 beds.

Given the primary motive of the centre is to provide

appropriate treatment to children suffering from diseases associated with blood-transfusion, measures have been taken to ensure a child-friendly atmosphere. The measures include child-friendly rooms with comfortable cots, beautiful paintings on the walls, interactive child-friendly wall-papers, and a television with subscription to kids’ channels.

The nurses deputed at the unit are equipped with the necessary training in child-care. Healthy nutritious food, friendly nurses & doctors along with an interactive kid-friendly room are some of the key components incorporated in the unit. These components help in making the centre a welcoming and joyous place for



Children play with a ball at the Day Care Centre at Sadar Hospital in Ranchi on Wednesday Pioneer photo

children who suffer from painful blood-related disorders and are undergoing treatment.

The centre has a robust supply chain system which ensures that it would not run out of necessary medicines and patients would always be able to access quality health ser-

vice.

Today, the Sadar Hospital, Ranchi has adequate facilities for treating blood-related disorders like Thalassemia and provides medicines as well as blood transfusion free of cost. The new facilities that have been introduced include infusion pumps, intravenous iron chelation agent drugs and Leukocyte filters. According to the Civil Surgeon Ranchi, these facilities will play a crucial role in helping the patients get better.

He added, “Dedicated indoor playground for kids has also been developed. This indoor play corner acts as a positive space for kids who visit District hospital for blood transfusion and other ailments.”

This centre acts as a lifeline for considerable chunk of Jharkhand’s population living below the poverty line and those who are unable to afford appropriate treatment. Additionally, the patients visiting the centre for treatment are also provided with break-fast, lunch and dinner.

Those patients who reside nearby are relieved the same day, whereas the outstation patients are allowed to stay the night.

The centre manager commented, “We have patients from across the state coming for the treatment. Apart from this many patients are also coming from other nearby states like Odisha, West Bengal and Chhattisgarh.”

Parents associations oppose schools charging miscellaneous fees

Ranchi: Parents’ associations in State Capital have protested excess fee being allegedly charged by private schools in Ranchi and other cities of State. Different parent associations have threatened to launch an agitation if fees like building fund, library charges were not stopped by school authorities.

Private School and Children Welfare Association, Chairman Alok Dubey said, “It is very unfortunate that private schools are charging miscellaneous fees from students in the name of sanitization and other charges.” Dubey said that schools can only charge tuition fees as per the directive issued by the State government.

Founder president of Jharkhand Abhibhavak Sangh, Ajay Rai moving a step further



Pvt school students outside their school in Ranchi on Wednesday Pioneer photo

said that they will approach the Court against such schools charging other fees than tuition fees. Ajay Rai said, “In such cases parents should come forward in making their complaint. If we receive a written complaint from parents we will knock the High Court’s door with such complaints.” The issue came to fore after some schools demanded miscellaneous fees from students despite the fact that students

Birsa Munda Centre for Tribal Affairs inaugurated at IIM-R

Ranchi: Birsa Munda Centre for Tribal Affairs (BMCTA) was inaugurated at IIM’s temporary campus at Suchana Bhawan here on Wednesday. The Centre has been set up to conduct research and training in the area of tribal development, entrepreneurship and planning, which can contribute to the tribal culture and context at State as well as the national level. IIM Ranchi has signed an MoU with Vikash Bharti Bishunpur and Friends of Tribal Society for the uplift of tribal community.

Governor Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the Centre virtually and graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The Guests of Honour of the event were: Prof. (Dr.) Ramesh Pandey (Vice-Chancellor – Ranchi University), Ashok Bhagat – Eminent Social Worker & Founder Secretary Vikash Bharti (Bishunpur), Namita Pandya – Vice President of Friends of Tribal Society for Mumbai Chapter and In-charge of Gramin Ladies Wing of West Zone and Rekha Jain – President of Friends of Tribal Society for Ranchi Chapter.

Prof. Shailendra Singh, Director, IIM Ranchi, said, “Tribal issues are important because tribal communities are still considered backward. This center’s vision is to become one of the first centers where people can seek knowledge on tribal issues, income generation, entrepreneurship programs, and how it can be inculcated in tribal youths. We should give development opportunities to tribal people to integrate them with society, supporting Atmanirbhar Bharat’s concept.”

Praveen Shankar Pandya, Chairman, BoG, IIM Ranchi, in his address, said, “To bring IIM Ranchi into the top 10 from the top 20, we need to be aware of our surroundings.



Governor Droupadi Murmu addresses during the inauguration of the Birsa Munda Centre for Tribal Affairs IIM via video conferencing in Ranchi on Wednesday Pioneer photo

IIM Ranchi has been continuously taking challenges for the betterment of society. There is a need to focus on benefits given to the tribals by the government, and BMCTA can be the bridge to help and support them.”

Governor Droupadi Murmu appreciated IIM Ranchi for BMCTA and keeping the values of India in mind while guiding students. She said, “It is our responsibility to take tribal values and make people aware of the cultural heritage of tribes. Students can learn more about the tribal community through this center. The government would be able to provide more development to them via this initiative. I hope that IIM Ranchi will ready students for entrepreneurship development in the state of Jharkhand. Thus, the tribal communities’ development will be preserved, and these initiatives can avoid the extinction of tribes. It will also help in preserving tribal culture and heritage. We must appreciate the tribal community and work for their welfare.” After the Governor’s address, a memento was given to Droupadi Murmu and Ashok Bhagat as a token of honour. Signed copies of the MoU were exchanged with NGOs Vikash Bharti and Friends of Tribal Society. The inauguration concluded with a vote of thanks by Prof. Rekha Singhal, chairperson of the centre followed by the national anthem.

Marandi since he switched sides to BJP merging his party JVM after 2019 election. The BJP has been raising the issue for the past one year in the Assembly. The BJP has even knocked the High Court and Supreme Court doors demanding LoP status to Marandi.

The Speaker on the occasion also directed officers to follow Covid protocol during the Budget session. The Assembly secretariat recently issued guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures (SoP) for those attending the session.

None of the MLAs or officers will be allowed to attend the budget session of Jharkhand assembly without undergoing a coronavirus test.

The MLAs have been asked to submit their report 72 hours ahead of the commencement of the session.

Journalists covering the Assembly session will also need to take Covid-19 tests and will only be allowed after a positive report. Sanitizers face masks and face shields will be available for the MLAs. The personal staff of the MLAs will not be allowed beyond entrance points of the house. Moreover, if any MLA is found suffering from Covid-19 then as per the protocol, the concerned MLA can assign his question to another MLA and he or she has to inform the Assembly secretariat 24 hours before the session.

have paid their tuition fees. A city based private school in Capital is not allowing them to appear for their examination as they have not paid miscellaneous fees as demanded by school administration. The parents’ argument is that as per directive issued by the State School Literacy and Education Department only tuition fees should be demanded by the schools. A class V student of a private school had paid the tuition fees of Rs 28,560 (tuition fees-Rs 7140 per quarter), but now the child is being denied his admit card for his online final examination by the school authorities.

The parent of the kid said, “As per the directive issued by the State School Literacy and Education Department of

Jharkhand only tuition fees should be demanded by the schools and I have already paid.” The man further said, “On February 20, just before four days of the final examination, I received a message from the school for downloading the admit card, but I was not allowed to download the admit card for final examination and the page says please pay the fees upto March 2021.” He said, “I have paid the miscellaneous fees as demanded by school authorities, but it is cheating on part of school.”

As final examination in most schools is going to commence from the last week of February, many schools are once again exerting pressure on students to pay pending tuition fees till March.

PNS

Badal launches Medha Dairy’s ‘Medha EnerG’

MRITUANJAY KUMAR ■ RANCHI

Medha Dairy launched energy drink ‘Medha EnerG’ on Wednesday in the State Capital to compete with other energy drinks available in the market.



Agriculture Minister Badal along with others displays cutout of Medha Dairy products during a programme at Hotwar in Ranchi on Wednesday Ratan Lal | Pioneer

Attending the launching function as Chief Guest, Minister Agriculture Animal Husbandry and Cooperation, Government of Jharkhand, Badal launched the drink in presence of Jharkhand Dairy Federation, Managing Director, Sudhir Kumar Singh with other Medha Dairy’s officials, staff and a large numbers of farmers present on the present on the occasion of an agricultural seminar cum felicitation programme was organised by farmers associated with JME.

On this occasion the farmers thanked the Minister for Government of Jharkhand’s extension of long pending MoU with National Dairy Development Board (NDDB). They also put forth their demands in the interest of the milk business in the State, which Badal assured of compliance at the earliest.

While addressing the milk producers, Badal appreciated the modus operandi and progress of Jharkhand Dairy Federation and assured all possible assistance by State Government to the Federation.

During the programme, the Minister handed over the registration certificate of the first registered Lepsar Dairy Cooperative Society affiliated to Jharkhand State Dairy Federation to farmer members of the Lepsar Dairy Cooperative Society.

Addressing the gathering Medha Dairy MD Sudhir Kumar Singh said that keeping in mind the health and taste of consumers, this product from Medha Dairy will be available in the market from the time of

launching in different flavours such as Saffron Pistachio, Elaichi, Chocolate and Mango. Apart from this Medha Dairy has started selling many new products such as Kheer Mix, Gulab Jamun and others in the last one year, he added.

It may be mentioned here that the Jharkhand State Dairy Federation, known as Medha Brand, has been making steady progress in the efficient management of the NDDB for the last six years. To make Jharkhand self-sufficient in milk, the federation was formed in 2013 and its management was handed over to NDDB in 2014.

In 2014, only 12,000 litres of milk was procured per day from about 2000 milk producers from across the State.

Accepting the challenge, NDDB not only started creating awareness among the milk producers at the village level and taking them out from the clutches of middlemen but also started connecting them with organized milk business. NDDB provided all assistance to make the milk business profitable and as a result at present, about 40,000 milk producers are affiliated with the Federation and the milk procurement has crossed 1.20 lakh litres per day.

The Federation is currently working in 18 districts of the State and a target has been set to cover all the districts by the end of this financial year. The Federation has also set a target to increase milk procurement to 5 lakh litres per day by 2024-25.

झारखण्ड विधान-सभा सचिवालय

आवश्यक सूचना

सर्वसाधारण की जानकारी के लिए यह प्रकाशित किया जाता है कि पंचम झारखण्ड विधान-सभा के पंचम (बजट) सत्र दिनांक : 26/02/2021 से आहूत की गयी है। सत्र काल में झारखण्ड विधान-सभा परिसर में बिना वैद्य पत्रक के बाह्य व्यक्तियों का प्रवेश निषिद्ध है। पत्रकाराण 72 घंटा पूर्व के कोरोना जाँच प्रमाण-पत्र के साथ विधान-सभा परिसर में आयेगे।

ह0 / –
सचिव

झारखण्ड विधान-सभा, राँची।

पत्र संख्या- जनसम्पर्क-03/2021, 439/विउस0

Govt OK's ₹7,350 cr for making of desi gadgets

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved a ₹7,350-crore scheme to boost production of laptops, tablets, all-in-one PCs and servers in the country, as it sought to woo global and domestic players to take advantage of India's manufacturing prowess.

Production worth ₹3.26 lakh crore and exports of ₹2.45 lakh crore are estimated over the next four years under the new scheme, which is expected to create 1.80 lakh jobs, said Communications and IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad.

Briefing reporters after a meeting of the Cabinet, Prasad said the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme has been approved for IT hardware products that would cover lap-



tops, tablets, all-in-one PCs and servers. The ₹7,350-crore scheme aims to promote India as a global hub for hardware manufacturing. The PLI push for hi-tech IT hardware gadgets comes close on the heels of the Cabinet last week clearing a ₹12,195 crore scheme for telecom equipment manufacturing, he said.

An incentive scheme for mobile phone manufacturing was announced last year and

has since garnered strong response from players despite the challenging times of the pandemic. The latest IT hardware scheme offers incentives between 4-1 per cent on net incremental sales (over base year 2019-20) of goods manufactured in India and covered under the target segment, to eligible companies, for a period of four years, an official statement said.

The PLI scheme is expected to enhance the development of electronics ecosystem in India, at a time when globally manufacturing is undergoing a shift and companies across the world are looking to diversify their manufacturing locations to mitigate the risk involved in depending on a single market, said Prasad detailing the PLI scheme.

ED holds raids in ₹605 crore bank fraud case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Wednesday said it has conducted searches in a money laundering case at various premises of accused Amar Chand Gupta, Ram Laal Gupta, Raj Kumar Gupta and other family members allegedly involved in siphoning and diversion of loan funds amounting to ₹605 crore by Shree Bankey Bihari Exports Limited (SBBEL).

The ED had initiated investigation under Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) on the basis of an FIR registered by CBI against SBBEL, its Directors Amar Chand Gupta and others and other unknown public servants/persons for a fraud of ₹605 crore.

"During investigation, it was gathered that SBBEL had diverted the loan funds

through its sister units and also by employing the modus operandi of showing bogus and fictitious sale/purchase transactions. The primary security had also been disposed without depositing the sale proceeds in the loan account," the ED said in a statement.

It was also gathered that the books of accounts had been secreted in various premises wherein business was being carried out by these accused persons Amar Chand Gupta, Ram Laal Gupta and Raj Kumar Gupta in the name of other family members. In order to uncover the trail of proceeds of crime and to recover documentary and electronic evidence, searches at residential and business premises of the directors and the entities being run by them along with residence of one key employee were conducted, it said.

Congress attacks BJP for renaming Motera stadium

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Soon after President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the world's largest cricket stadium in Ahmedabad, which will now be known as 'Narendra Modi stadium', the Congress hit out at the BJP with its former chief Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday again invoking his 'Hum do humare do' jibe, claiming that truth was out with the stadium having the Prime Minister's name, two ends being named after corporate houses and Home Minister Amit Shah's son being involved in cricket administration. But the Government said the name change involves only the Motera stadium and the entire sports complex continues to be named after Sardar Patel.

"Beautiful how the truth reveals itself. Narendra Modi stadium — Adani end — Reliance end. With Jay Shah presiding," Rahul Gandhi tweeted, with the hashtag 'HumDoHumareDo'.

Insulting Indians favourite pastime of Rahul: BJP

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

BJP president JP Nadra and Union Ministers Prakash Javadekar, Smriti Irani and RK Singh on Wednesday hit out at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over his north and south politics remark, alleging that insulting Indians was a favourite pastime of his.

"Insulting Indians is a favourite pastime of Rahul Gandhi. Indians are not superficial you are Mr Rahul Gandhi," tweeted Javadekar.

Senior BJP leaders slamming responses came a day after Rahul's statement where he said that Kerala was a refreshing experience for him after 15 years as an MP in the north.

Similar tweets were made by BJP president. "A few days back he was in the Northeast, spewing venom against the western part of India. Today in the South he is spewing venom against the North. Divide and rule politics won't work, Rahul Gandhi Ji! People have rejected this politics. See what happened in Gujarat today!", said Nadra.

After Congress justified Rahul's remarks. Irani said that she completely agrees with Environment Minister Javadekar's statement that "insulting India and its citizens is the favourite pastime of Rahul Gandhi."

Speaking to television



channels, Irani said that this is not the first time that the Congress leader has said something against the country and its people.

The Union Minister said, "A neta's job is to keep the whole country united and think for the interest of the country and its people, despite his/her own political indifference."

Taking a dig at the Wayanad (Kerala) MP whom she had defeated in the 2019 Amethi Lok Sabha election, Smriti Irani alleged, "Rahul Gandhi is the same person who on Republic Day had voiced his opinion in favour of country's division during tractor rally violence."

She also claimed that earlier, Rahul had also questioned the Indian Army on how it had attacked its enemy-nation Pakistan.

The Minister said, "My only question is that is Rahul

Gandhi has so much hatred for India and its people then why is he engaging in country's politics and pretending that he is always wishing for India's best interests?"

She alleged that the Congress leader was creating "divisions" while a leader should be uniting the country

Union Minister and Lok Sabha MP from Bihar's Arrah constituency RK Singh said "Rahul Gandhi is talking about North and South, but if you do not work in any Constituency then you will be defeated. This is what happened to you in Amethi (Uttar Pradesh). You did not work, that's why the public voted out. Even if you do not work in Kerala the public will vote out."

"You think that if you keep winning from one constituency to another constituency, then it is not going to last long, you have to work, having been MP three times in a Constituency you lost the election because you did not do any developmental work. Do not divide people into North and South. People (of Kerala) are from India and if you do not work, then you will be voted out from here also," he said.

Rahul's ignorance about the presence of Fisheries Ministry had earlier in the week made him a subject of criticism from the BJP leaders.

No extra chance in UPSC exam to those who exhausted last attempt amid pandemic: SC

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday dismissed a plea seeking an extra chance for UPSC civil services exam aspirants who exhausted their last attempt in October 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

A bench headed by Justices A M Khanwilkar said that it was dismissing the plea filed by a civil services aspirant for the extra chance citing difficulties faced in preparations during the pandemic.

The Centre informed the top court on February 9 that it is against granting one-time relaxation on age limit to UPSC civil service aspirants, including those who had exhausted their last attempt in the 2020 exam amid the Covid-19 pandemic, as it would be discriminatory to other candidates.

The candidates from general category are allowed six attempts for the UPSC civil services exam till the age of 32; the

OBC, nine attempts till 35 years and the SC/ST candidates unlimited attempts till they turn 37.

The Centre was initially not willing to give an extra chance to the candidates but it had later agreed to do so at the suggestion of the bench.

It had on February 5 told the apex court that it was agreeable to giving an extra chance as a one-time relaxation to those civil service aspirants who had appeared in their last attempt in the 2020 exam and are not age-barred.

However, the bench on Wednesday dismissed the petition of Rachna and others.

The Centre had earlier furnished a chart in the apex court giving details of relaxation given by Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) in civil services exams since its inception and had said that in 1979, 1992 and 2015 relaxations were given to the candidates due to change in patterns of the examination.

Disengagement a win-win situation, says Army chief

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As India and China are regularly holding talks to defuse tension at the Line of Actual Control (LAC), Army Chief General MM Naravane said here on Wednesday the country has shown resolve.

He also said "nobody wants an unsettled border" and favoured resumption of all engagements with China.

In an apparent reference to the recent pull back of troops by both the armies from the Pangong Tso (lake), the Army Chief said the whole of the government approach ensured that India's interests were safe. He also said "our relations with China would develop along the path that we wish to develop."

Referring to the disengagement from the Pangong, he said it saw a good result and termed it as a win-win situation. However, there is still a long way to go, Naravane said adding China has been in the habit of making small incremental moves like in South China Sea which were not

North-South divide a toolkit by BJP: Cong

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With its former chief Rahul Gandhi coming under attack of the BJP over his comments in Kerala, the Congress on Wednesday sought to defend him saying the Wayanad MP had given a clarion call to the people to question the Government on real issues and the North-South divide was a "toolkit" being sold by the BJP to the public.

However, while former Union Minister Kapil Sibal said he was nobody to comment on what Rahul Gandhi has but still maintained "we must respect electors in the country and not denigrate their wisdom", another former Minister Anand Sharma said only Rahul can clarify so that there's no conjecture or misunderstanding.

The Congress alleged that the BJP was raising "superficial" issues on a daily basis to divert the country's attention from the people's issues. Several BJP leaders and union ministers accused Rahul Gandhi of being an 'opportunistic' and alleged that he

belittled north Indians during the speech delivered in Kerala.

Addressing a public gathering in Thiruvananthapuram, Rahul had said, "For the first 15 years, I was an MP in the north. I had got used to a different type of politics. For me, coming to Kerala was very refreshing as suddenly I found that people are interested in issues and not just superficially but going into detail in issues."

Referring to Rahul Gandhi's remarks, AICC chief spokesman Randeep Surjewala clarified that the former Congress president has given a clarion call to the people to question the government of the day, whether in the states or at the Centre, on issues paramount to people and to "ignore the superficial toolkit story being sold by the BJP day in and day out."

"The North-South divide is a toolkit being adopted and sold by the BJP to the news channels and the public. Let us all rise and ensure that the governments of the day answer on issues and not on superficiality that they want to divert our attention to," Surjewala said at AICC Press conference.

Foodgrain output to touch new record of 303.34 million tonnes in 2020-21

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Riding high on bumper rice and wheat output due to good monsoon rains and using good quality seeds, India's food-grain production for 2020-21 crop year is estimated at 303.34 million tonnes — an all-time record. It is estimated to be 5.84 million tonnes higher than the output in 2019-20 which stood at 296.50 million tons. This will be the fifth consecutive year of record production, propelled by record production of rice, wheat, pulses and cereals.

As per the second advance

estimate released by the Ministry of agriculture, production of both paddy and wheat is estimated to touch a new high of 120.32 million tonnes (118.87 million tons during the fourth advance estimate 2019-20) and 109.24 million tonnes (107.86 million tons), respectively, in 2020-21 a record high.

The projection of record production is significant amid the Covid-19 pandemic and farmers' agitation. Punjab, which has been the nerve centre of farmers' protest, has seen record procurement of rice at 13.58 million tonnes, which is 24 per cent

more than last year.

Pulses production, too, is slated to get a slight boost to 24.42 million tons nearly 1.4 million tons more than the previous year, mainly because of a record gram production which is expected to be around 11.62 million tons.

Total oilseed production during 2020-21 is estimated at 37.31 million tons which is 4.09 million tons more than the production of 33.22 million tons during 2019-20. The higher oilseed output is on account of higher yields expected in all three major oilseed crops —

groundnut, mustard and soyabean. The production of maize is also expected to be a record one at 30.16 million tons. Aided by a record maize production, total output of coarse cereals in 2020-21 is expected to go up to 49.36 million tons, which is nearly 1.6 million tons more than that in the previous year. Cotton production is estimated at 36.54 million bales (of 170 kg each), which is nearly half a million bales more than last year.

Similarly, sugarcane output is expected to be around 397.66 million tons which is substantially higher than the previous

year's 370.5 million tons.

"After achieving self-sufficiency in pulses, our focus is on raising oilseeds output to reduce dependence on edible oil imports. This year, we are likely to cross 34 million tonnes as against last year's fourth advance estimate of 33.4 million tonnes. The production of oilseeds will go up in subsequent years," the official said.

"There has been no impact of pandemic and farmers' agitation in farm activities so far in the country. Farmers in Punjab actively participated in the procurement exercise and planted

wheat across areas at last year's level," the official said.

The year-on-year record production has resulted in a surge in farm exports, which rose 25% to ₹1.02 lakh crore in the first three quarters of fiscal 2020-21.

The Union Government bought a record 658.61 lakh tons of kharif (monsoon crops) paddy in its ongoing procurement operations, 16.56 percent more than it did last year. Nearly 95.23 lakh farmers have been paid minimum support prices worth ₹1.24 lakh crore for these purchases, the data show.

₹1.15L cr transferred to 10.75 cr farmers under PM-Kisan scheme

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Modi Government on Wednesday said it has transferred over ₹1.15 lakh crore directly to bank accounts of more than 10.75 crore farmers under the PM-KISAN scheme and asked states to ensure that all eligible beneficiaries are covered in this flagship programme.

Addressing a function on the occasion of the second anniversary of the PM-KISAN, Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar said the Government has enhanced the income of farmers by providing ₹6,000 annually to farmers under this scheme in three equal instalments.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL HOSPITAL AND CENTRAL HEATING DIVISION SRINAGAR
Telefax :- 0194-2496089, Email Id:- xenmhchdk@yahoo.in
(Short-term)
e -NIT NO: MHCHD/TS /2020-21 /299/e-tendering Dated:-23.02.2021

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited from Authorized dealers of approved makes of Split ACs or Registered/ Reputed and experienced firms for the below mentioned work:-
Name of Work:- Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Air Conditioning Units for CT Scan Room at Govt. SMHS Hospital, Srinagar.
Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs) :- 2.32
Cost of T/Doc. (In rupees) :- 200
Time of completion (in days) :- 05
AAA/Position on of Funds :- MC/Plan/Mech/Auth/5091-95, Dated: 18-01-2021
TS. NO :- 107 of 02/2021
1. The Tender document Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from **23.02.2021(18.00 hrs)**.
2. The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site from **24.02.2021 (10:00hrs) to 03.03.2021 (14:00 hrs)** in two (02) cover.
3. The bids uploaded on the website up to due date and time will be opened on **04.03.2021 (14.00 hrs)** or any date convenient to the department in the office of Executive Engineer, MHCHD, Srinagar.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, MHCHD, Srinagar
No. DIPK-13810/20 Dated:- 24.02.2021

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA CORRIGENDUM					
SR. No.	NAME OF department	OLD REFERENCE/NIT NO.	NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM	WEBSITE OF DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	IRRIGATION & W/R DEPARTMENT HARYANA PANCHKULA	NO 288/6-A DATED 03.02.2021 & NO 401/6-A DATED 12.02.2021	DATE OF TENDERS INVITED VIDE THIS OFFICE NIT NO. 288/6-A DATED 03.02.2021 AND NO. 401/6-A DATED 12.02.2021 ARE HEREBY POSTPONED. NOW THE LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF ONLINE BIDS IS FIXED 27.02.2021 UPTO 15:00 HRS. LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF PHYSICAL BIDS IS FIXED 01.03.2021 UPTO 14:00 HRS AND DATE OF OPENING OF TENDER IS FIXED 01.03.2021 AT 15:00 HRS. ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITION SHALL REMAIN UNCHANGED. FOR ANY QUERY CONTACT IN THE OFFICE OF UNDERSIGNED.	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01274256466 xenmech@yahoo.com
2	IRRIGATION & W/R DEPARTMENT HARYANA REWARI	288/6-A DATED 03.02.2021	TENDERS INVITED FOR 15 NO. WORKS (I.E. SR. NO. 1 TO 15) VIDE THIS OFFICE NIT NO. 288/6-A DATED 03.02.2021. NAME OF WORK AT SR. NO. 12 MAY PLEASE BE READ AS "REPAIRING OF 1 NO. 125 CS PUMP (P-20) WILDO MAKE AT PUMP HOUSE JF-1" INSTEAD OF "REPAIRING OF 1 NO. 150 CS PUMP (P-20) WILDO MAKE AT PUMP HOUSE JF-1". ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITION SHALL REMAIN UNCHANGED. FOR ANY QUERY CONTACT IN THE OFFICE OF UNDERSIGNED	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01274256466 xenmech@yahoo.com

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

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GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA CORRIGENDUM					
SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD CORP./AUTH	OLD REFERENCE/NIT NO.	NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	SHRI MATA MANSA DEVI SHRINE BOARD, PANCHKULA	NO.SMMDSB/ESTT/7021 /164 DATED 08.02.2021	E-TENDER HAS BEEN INVITED AND UPLOADED FOR ABOVE MENTIONED SUBJECT ON OUR WEBSITE WWW.MANSADEVI.ORG.IN ON 10.02.21. THE CLOSING DATE OF WHICH IS 22.02.21 HAS NOW BEEN EXTENDED UPTO 01.03.2021 (5.00 PM) DUE TO ADMINISTRATIVE GROUND. SOME AMENDMENTS IN DNIT HAS BEEN UPLOADED 20.02.21 AND 22.02.21.	http://mansadevi.org.in	http://mansadevi.org.in
2	HVPNL	NIT NO. 15 (EPC-D-15/PD&C) DATED 04.01.2021	EXTENSION IN DATE OF ONLINE SUBMISSION OF BIDS UPTO 08.03.2021 UPTO 17:00 HRS & 24.02.2021	www.hvnpn.org.in	01722583789 pro@hvnpn.org.in
3	HVPNL	NIT NO. 28/AMB/220KV SHAHABAD/2020-21, DATED 09.02.2021	THE TENDER WAS TO BE OPENED ON DATED 23.02.2021. NOW DATE EXTENDED UPTO 04.03.2021 DUE TO NON TURNING UP MINIMUM BIDDERS I.E. 3 NO. BIDDERS	www.hvnpn.org.in	01722583789 pro@hvnpn.org.in
4	HVPNL	E-TENDER ENQIRY NO.21/CWR/2020-21 DATED 25.01.2021 (ONLINE TENDER ID:- 2021_HBC_157539_1)	CORRIGENDUM NO. 02 THE LAST DATE OF ONLINE BID SUBMISSION IS EXTENDED UPTO 09.03.2021(13.00 HRS.)	www.hvnpn.org.in	01722583789 pro@hvnpn.org.in
5	HVPNL	E-TENDER ENQIRY NO.22/CWR/2020-21 DATED 25.01.2021 (ONLINE TENDER ID:- 2021_HBC_157543_1)	CORRIGENDUM NO. 02 THE LAST DATE OF ONLINE BID SUBMISSION IS EXTENDED UPTO 09.03.2021(13.00 HRS.)	www.hvnpn.org.in	01722583789 pro@hvnpn.org.in
6	DHBVN	NIT NO.44/ESTATE OFFICE/HISAR/2020-21 DATED 07.01.2021 (TENDER ID NO. 2021_HBC_155587_1)	DATE EXTENDED UPTO 01.03.2021	www.dhbvn.org.in	7027348444 estateofficer@dhbvn.org.in

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

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2 ultras killed in Anantnag

Jammu: Two terrorists were eliminated by the joint team of security forces in Shalgul forest area of Srigufwara Anantnag on Wednesday. The operation was launched by the Anantnag police along with 3RR after receiving intelligence inputs about the presence of a group of terrorists in the said area.

According to a police spokesman, “during the search operation as the presence of terrorists got ascertained they were given an opportunity to surrender, however, they fired indiscriminately upon the joint search party, which was retaliated leading to an encounter”. “In the ensuing encounter, two unidentified terrorists were killed and their bodies were retrieved from the site of encounter. The identification and affiliation of the killed terrorists is being ascertained” a police spokesman added.

Before confirming the identity of slain terrorists the local police authorities announced incase any family claims the killed terrorists to be their kith or kin, they can come forward for their identification at PCR Kashmir.

Arms & ammunition including 02 AK rifles and other incriminating materials were recovered from the site of encounter, a police spokesman said. **PNS**

UP high school student gangraped, stabbed

Gonda (UP): In yet another shocking crime in Uttar Pradesh, a high school girl student in Mankapur Kotwali area of Gonda district was gang-raped and then stabbed by four men.

The girl was returning home from school on Tuesday evening when she was waylaid by four accused and dragged to a sugarcane field. The four men, one of whom belongs to her village, raped her by turns and then stabbed her on the hand, warning her not to report the incident. The girl returned to her home and informed her parents after which she lodged a complaint with the police.The police spokesman at Mankapur police station said that a case had been registered against the four accused for rape and under provisions of the POCSO Act. **IANS**

Sasikala wants Amma’s loyalists to join hands for Assembly polls

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

The 73rd birth anniversary of former Chief Minister and AIADMK supremo J Jayalalithaa saw her close aide V K Sasikala asking “all Amma loyalists” to come together and fight the upcoming assembly elections to usher in Amma rule for the next 100 years.

Sasikala, who reached Chennai a fortnight ago after a 23-hour car journey from Bangalore where she was undergoing imprisonment for four years as an accused in a Disproportionate Asset case, garlanded a picture of Jayalalithaa at the former’s T Nagar bungalow and briefly spoke to her loyalists, mainly Amma Makkal Munnetra Kazhagam (AMMK), a political outfit floated by her nephew TTV Dhinakaran.

“The true cadre of Amma should come together and win the elections to form the government. Amma has mandated that even after 100 years, our government should be there. I am confident that you would accomplish that. I will also stand by you. Very soon, I will meet the people and the cadre,” said Sasikala in her brief speech. AIADMK cadre and Tamils address Jayalalithaa as Amma as a mark of reverence.

Sasikala did not mention the name

AIADMK even once. She wanted all cadres of Amma come together to win the elections. “To achieve that, you all should stand by me. Each one of you should work like bees and offer the victory in elections to her. You should take a vow towards this and work hard,” said Sasikala giving enough indications about who the queen bee is.

Though no known AIADMK leaders were present during the small function, leaders of fringe outfits like AISMK, Naam Tamilar (a Tamil chauvinistic organisation) and P R Pandian a CPI-leader-turned-farm leader called on Sasikala along with movie maker Bharati Raja called on Sasikala.

By evening there were reports that a Third-Front under Sasikala’s leadership was being formed and film actor Vijayakanth would cast his lot with this front. Though Vijayakanth has been immobilized because of indifferent health, his spouse Premalatha who is the treasurer of the DMDK had declared her support for Sasikala.

The AIADMK is yet to commence its talks on seat sharing with prospective allies. The DMDK has been expressing restlessness over the delay in seat-allocation talks. It is expected that the talks would gather momentum once the Election Commission of India announces the poll schedule this week.

Chikkaballapur blast: 5 nabbed, 2 K’taka cops suspended

Chikkaballapur: A day after an ‘accidental explosion’ in a quarry killed six persons in Karnataka’s Chikkaballapur, police arrested five persons including three partners of the mining firm, and suspended two police officers on Wednesday.

According to the police, the arrested are Raghavendra Reddy, Venkatashiva Reddy and Madhusudhan Reddy, who are partners of Sri Bhramaravasini Sanders while Praveen is a manager of this company and Mohammed Riyaz Ansari is the driver of the vehicle who drove the victims along with explosive materials.

Superintendent of Police Mithun Kumar G.K. told IANS that two police officers - Gudibande police station inspector Manjunath M.N. and sub-inspector G.R. Gopal Reddy have been suspended. He said these officers had failed to act “in time” against the owners of Bhramaravasini Sanders for illegal blasting and storage of explosives. “Since the police officials failed to arrest the accused despite complaints, they were suspended,” he said.

Following the incident on Tuesday, Karnataka Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai who had inspected the spot had directed Inspector General of Police (Central Range) M. Chandra Shekar to form three special teams to nab the culprits. Accordingly, the IGP had formed the teams under the supervision of Chikkaballapur SP Mithun Kumar. **IANS**

DADRA NAGAR HAVELI MP’S SUICIDE

Cong alleges UT Administrator was among officials who harassed Delkar

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Demanding an enquiry into the alleged suicide by sitting MP Mohan S. Delkar, the ruling Congress on Wednesday turned the needle of suspicion towards Administrator of the Union Territory (UT) of Dadra, Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu and former BJP MLA Praful Patel who, it alleged, was among the UT officials that harassed Delkar leading the latter ending his life.

In a video-conference held with Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh, State Congress general secretary Sachin Sawant and party’s spokesperson Dr Raju Wagmare alluded to a video clip released by late Delkar in mid-2020 and the suicide note left by the latter and rooted for thorough investigations into the circumstances leading to the suicide by the sitting MP.

“The tragic end of Mr Delkjar needs to be investigated. He has left A 16-page suicide note in which he has mentioned the names of all the officials who harassed him. It is being discussed among people that he has mentioned the name of Praful Patel, who is currently working as the Administrator of Dadra, Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu since 2016,” Sawant and Dr Wagmare said in their representation to the State Home Minister.

“Mr Patel is a former BJP MLA from Himatnagar constituency in Gujarat for its 12th legislative Assembly. He also served as an Minister of State for Home of Gujarat and is very close to the RSS and BJP’s national leadership,” the two Congress leaders said.

“It is pertinent to note that Delkar travelled to Mumbai late on Sunday, checked into a hotel and committed ‘suicide’ by hanging himself in the room. He may have chosen to come to Mumbai committing suicide because of he was not sure to get justice in the Union Territory,” Saware and Dr Wafgmare said.

“He must have come to Mumbai with an expectation from the MVA government that the culprits who compelled him to take the extreme step would be punished by law,” the two Congress leaders stated in their letter. On his part, the State Home Minister gave a patient hearing to the Congress, accepted their two-page representation and assured them that he would direct the Mumbai Police to look into the matter.

In their interaction with Deshmukh, the two Congress leaders alluded to a video released by Delkar sometime in mid-2020, in which the latter had threatened to resign as the MP as he could no longer bear the “insults and humiliating treatment” meted out to him

continuously.

“Delkar was clearly seen targeting the BJP in the video. The words used by him shed light on how he was targeted by the Modi government,” the Congress leaders said in their representation to Deshmukh.

It may be recalled that Delkar was found hanging in a hotel in the Marine Drive in south Mumbai on Monday. Fifty-eight-year-old Delkar is suspected to have committed suicide by hanging himself.

The preliminary investigations had suggested Delkar had committed by hanging himself in the hotel room. His body was found in the hotel on Monday. Delkar’s body was subsequently taken to JJ Hospital where after a post-mortem, his viscera has been preserved for histopathological examination to ascertain the exact cause of the death. Later, his mortal remains were handed over to his family members on Tuesday for taking to Silvassa, where his last rites were performed later in the evening.

While confirming that Delkar’s body had been handed over to his family, Mumbai’s Deputy Commissioner of Police (operations) and police spokesperson S Chaitanya had declined to comment on the investigations. “We cannot say anything at this stage. Investigations are in progress,” Chaitanya had said.

Danab Modi’s CBI grilled my Bahu: Didi

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ HOOGHLY

Within 48 hours of Narendra Modi calling out for “real Poriborton (change of guards)” from a public rally in Hooghly, Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee launched a blistering attack on the Prime Minister, calling him a “dangabaj” (rioter), a “daitya” and “danab” (demon) and daring him to defeat the Trinamool Congress in the (electoral) game that was in the offing.

Banerjee’s no-holds-barred attack came a day after CBI officials questioned Rujira Narula Banerjee the wife of her nephew and TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee regarding her bank transactions in Thailand. The CBI is porbing the multi-croer coal scam.Attacking the Prime Minister for using CBI against the opposition leaders, she said earlier they were threatening us but now they are entering the households and not even sparing the young Bahus (housewives).

“They sent CBI to harass a Bahu of my house. They are calling us coal thieves ... but let me ask who is a thief . These people stay in the hotels constructed by coal mafia at Durgapur, their leaders stay in the house of the

Ruias who have ruined the Dunlop company. They are selling out BSNL, Rail, LIC, SAIL, banks and are calling us coal thieves. Are the bahus of Bengal coal thieves?”

“I will play the Goalkeeper and see how many goals you can score,” the Chief Minister said invoking the weird ‘Khela Hobey’ (there will be a game) slogan that has recently gone into circulation in the poll-bound Bengal with the opposition leaders calling it a Trinamool ploy to terrorise the voters driving fears of a “bloody game” so that they remain indoors and do not venture out to vote.

Launching a fierce personal attack she said, “today the country is being ruled by a Hodol Kutkut (Bengali for a chubby person) and a Kimbhut Kimakar (weird looking guy) who have been peddling all kinds of lies against us to win elections.”

“Let me tell you that they are bigger Tolabaj in fact they are Dangabaj (rioters) who ignite riots to win elections,” Banerjee thundered from the same Dunlop Maidan where Modi addressed his rally on Monday and used the tolabaj jibe to attack the TMC.

“The other day the self-styled tallest leader of the country who

thinks himself even taller than Mahatma Gandhi came here to tell all kind of lies ... he spoke of development done by his Government, he said that the TMC has done nothing. If I did nothing then who made the Noapara Dakshineshwar Metro Railway, who made Joka Metro, who made Dankuni Amritsar freight corridor --- all these I had cleared as a Railway Minister of which this man is cutting ribbons and taking the credit,” Banerjee said adding I have not seen a Prime Minister to tell such amount of lies.”

“The country is being ruled by a doitya and a danab (Bengali for demons). They will try to break our spine. They will infiltrate and grab Bengal its culture and everything. Do you want that? Do you want Bengal to be ruled by Gujarat ... Bengal will be ruled by Bengal and not Gujarat,” she said. Referring to the ‘great fall of Donald Trump’ she said “he (Modi had held that hands of Trump thinking that he will continue to help him everywhere but now see what has happened to him (the former US President). I tell you this man’s condition will be even worse than that of Trump.”

AP records 94 more Covid cases, tally 8.89 lakh



Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh recorded 94 new Covid cases on Wednesday, raising the state’s tally over 8.89 lakh, even as 66 more persons recovered from the virus in the past 24 hours.

Chittoor district reported the highest number of cases at 21, followed by Visakhapatnam (15), Anantapur (11), Srikakulam (9) and East Godavari and Guntur (8 each) with Kadapa and Nellore (5 each), Krishna and Vizianagaram (4 each) and Kurnool and West Godavari (2 each).

East Godavari’s tally crossed 1.24 lakh, the highest among all Andhra districts, while the state’s positivity rate fell to 6.44 per cent, which is still higher than the national average of 5.18 per cent.

Surprisingly, the state’s active coronavirus cases rose back over 600 to reach 603 in the past 24 hours.

But no fatalities occurred due to the virus in the past 24 hours, retaining the total number of deaths at 7,168. Powered by 66 more recoveries, total recoveries crossed 8.81 lakh in the southern state.

With 32,494 more tests, total Covid tests in Andhra Pradesh crossed 1.38 crore. **IANS**

Amaravati activist hits BJP leader with slipper during TV debate

Amaravati: A live debate on a Telugu news channel turned ugly when one of the panelists assaulted a BJP leader with a slipper.

During the political debate on Tuesday night, Kolikapudi Srinivasa Rao, an activist working against the trifurcation of Amaravati, removed his slipper and hit BJP’s Andhra Pradesh general secretary Vishnu Vardhan Reddy after a verbal duel over some comments made by Reddy on former chief ministers.

Enraged by these remarks, Rao fired back at Reddy saying he was talking “nonsense”. He was aided by condemnation from another panelist who logged in virtually from home. “You are crossing your limits,” Reddy warned Rao, but he said that he will repeat the “nonsense” word 100 times.

As the debate heated up, Reddy accused Rao that he should wear a Telugu Desam

Enraged by these remarks, Rao fired back at Reddy saying he was talking “nonsense”. He was aided by condemnation from another panelist who logged in virtually from home

Party (TDP) flag and then debate, hinting that he was a TDP supporter.

“Wear a TDP flag and talk or go and work in the TDP office. Who are you? Who are you to ask me? Should I do your paid artist job?” fumed Reddy.

On hearing the “paid artist” jibe, an infuriated Rao removed his slipper and struck Reddy on his face and questioned him “who is a paid artist?”

Those opposing Amaravati’s trifurcation are termed as “paid artists” by their political opponents, who allege that they are opposing trifurcation as the land value in Amaravati region will plummet. **IANS**

Man ends life over mother-wife feud

Moradabad (Uttar Pradesh): Upset over a feud between his mother and wife, a 37-year-old man allegedly committed suicide by jumping off the fifth floor of a residential building in Pakhwara area of Moradabad.

The man’s wife and his mother were allegedly having an argument at the time when the incident took place on Monday night, police said.

The deceased has been identified as Sachin Saini. The man, who was lying in a pool of blood, was rushed to a private hospital on Delhi road from where he was referred to a higher facility in Delhi.

SHO Pakhwara, Rajni Dwiwedi said, “The man succumbed while on the way to Delhi. Prima facie, it appears that the man took the extreme step in a fit of rage as he was upset over frequent fights in the family. The body has been sent for post mortem. Further investigation is underway.” The deceased, who owned a crockery shop in Pakhwara area, is survived by mother, wife and son. **IANS**



People stand near the portion of a road which caved in, at Dalgate in Srinagar on Wednesday

PTI

Kerala CM withdraws cases over Sabarimala, CAA protests

Thiruvananthapuram: Under pressure from numerous quarters, the Pinarayi Vijayan government in Kerala on Wednesday decided to withdraw cases against protesters on the Sabarimala temple issue and also against those involved in anti-Citizenship Amendment Act protests.

The state Cabinet decided to withdraw the cases as they are not serious criminal cases.

Incidentally, Vijayan was forced to take this decision after the Congress-led opposition said if they return to power, they would withdraw all these cases. Reacting to the Vijayan’s decision, Leader of Opposition Ramesh Chennithala said while he welcomes this decision, it came a bit late and the reasons why it has been made now is known to all, hinting at upcoming Assembly polls.

But BJP leader Kummanam Rajasekheran said he fails to understand why the decision appears to have come with a rider that “serious criminal

cases” will not be withdrawn.

“The government should first make things clear on which are those cases that fall under the serious category. We all expected that the government would apologise to the people for having unleashed a police raj against the Sabarimala believers and then they should have withdrawn each and every case that was registered against the believers who protested over violation of temple traditions,” said Rajasekheran.

G. Sukumaran Nair, general secretary of the Nair Service Society - the socio-cultural body of the Hindu Nairs - said this is certainly a good step of the Vijayan government.

“We were the first to demand this but I don’t think all the issues will end with this,” said Nair.

Back in 2018, Vijayan rubbed Sabarimala temple worshippers the wrong way when his government announced that it would go forward and implement the apex court order which said the temple should be

open to all women, as against the tradition and customs, no women in the age group 10 to 50 are allowed.

That led to massive protests by angry worshippers who came out in large numbers and fought a bitter battle with the police who were trying to escort women who came to break the tradition. During that period numerous cases was registered against the protesters.

Things took a turn for the worse for Vijayan when the LDF was able to win just one of the 20 Lok Sabha seats in Kerala and the single reason attributed was the anger of the Hindu community over breaking of the Sabarimala temple tradition.

And now with the Assembly polls round the corner, it remains to be seen, with the damage already done, how far this will benefit Vijayan who is aiming to become the first Chief Minister in the state’s history to return to power by winning two successive elections. **IANS**

Cop killed in Bihar encounter with liquor mafia

Patna: A Sub-Inspector in Bihar’s Sitamarhi district was killed in an encounter with a liquor mafia gang while a guard sustained injuries on Wednesday afternoon. Sources said that a smuggler was also killed.

The encounter took place in Kunwari village around 12.15 pm.

P.N. Sahu, Deputy Superintendent of Police Sitamarhi confirmed the incident.

Sahu said that there was information about Sub Inspector Dinesh Ram posted in Majorganj police station who sustained gunshot injuries and later succumbed in Sadar hospital. There strict liquor prohibition laws in Bihar. **IANS**

At least 4 killed, 7 injured in road accident in Burdwan

Kolkata: In a tragic accident, a speeding truck mowed down as many as 11 people, killing at least four in the spot, in West Bengal’s Burdwan district on Wednesday.

Police said the incident took place on the National Highway (NH)-2 this evening near Palsit when the truck hit a group of passengers waiting for local transport along the highway.

At least four people were killed in the spot while seven others were taken to a nearby hospital with critical injuries. The condition of five injured passengers is really serious, sources said.

The truck was coming from Kolkata side and after the incident it fled the spot. The police have launched search drive to find the offending vehicle. **IANS**

Union MoS Defence Shripad Naik discharged a month after road accident

IANS ■ PANAJI

More than a month after he was hospitalised with serious injuries following a road accident in Karnataka, Union Minister of State for Defence Shripad Naik on Wednesday was discharged from a top Government hospital.

Speaking to reporters, Dr. Shivanand Bandodkar, dean of the Goa Medical College, the state’s apex health facility, said that Naik’s wounds had healed well and he may be in a position to attend the budget session of Parliament, which is scheduled to reconvene after the ongoing break, in March.

“He has healed well. His thigh bone fracture is also healing. He needs rest, which he can take at home,” Bandodkar told reporters at the time of the Union Minister’s discharge.

“We will conduct an x-ray sitting again and after examining his condition, we will consider permitting him (to attend

Parliament). Considering his health, he may be able to attend it, but we will be able to say only after examination of his x-ray then,” the top medical official said.

Naik was travelling by car along with his wife and an aide in the north Kannada district as part of a private visit when his car overturned near Yallapura on January 12. His wife and an aide died from injuries received during the accident.

Speaking to reporters while escorting Naik out of the hospital, the Union Minister’s son Siddesh thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant for their assistance.

“Everyone has helped us a lot. I want to thank the Prime Minister and Defence Minister, other Union Ministers and party officials, Chief Minister and Health Minister and all party workers, because of whose support and blessings we were able to overcome this phase,” Siddhesh Naik said.

Shahjahanpur woman was set ablaze after failed gangrape bids

Shahjahanpur (UP): The BA second year student who was found half-burnt near a highway in Shahjahanpur, has now told the police that three people tried to rape her in a field near Rai Kheda village on Monday evening and when they did not succeed, they poured kerosene and set her on fire.

Superintendent of Police S. Anand said that the girl gave this statement to the investigators. She has not yet named the accused.

The victim has now been admitted to Civil Hospital in Lucknow. She has suffered more than 70 per cent burn injuries on the stomach chest and neck.

The police officer, however, said that she frequently changed her statements and also said that she was not aware how she reached the hospital from the third floor of her college building.

In CCTV footage, the girl, a student of a college run by a trust of former union minister Swami Chinmayanand, was seen coming down alone from the third floor, the police said.

The SP said, “With the help of CCTV footage, we have found that the girl went out of the college campus from a broken outer wall about 20 minutes after entering the premises and was seen walking alone on a canal road.”

Before that, the girl could be seen talking to her friends outside a classroom and visiting a library.

Three teams led by deputy superintendents of police (DSP) as well as an SOG team have been deployed. **IANS**



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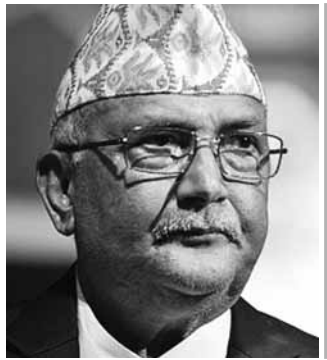
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PAPER WITH PASSION

Trouble next door

Nepal's top court revokes PM Oli's Parliament dissolution decision, forcing him to face trust vote

In a major blow to Nepal's Prime Minister (PM) KP Sharma Oli, their Supreme Court has ruled that the Himalayan nation's Parliament, which was dissolved by Oli in December 2020, must be reconvened. The court has given Oli two weeks to reinstate the legislature, which was dissolved following protracted internal disputes within his ruling Nepal Communist Party (NCP). In what is being seen as a major slap on the wrist for Oli, the top court ruled that the PM had overstepped his powers and the dissolution of the House was an unconstitutional act. The apex court's verdict means that Oli will face a no-confidence motion when the legislators reconvene because he had dissolved Parliament about two years before its mandated five-year term was to end, to head off a no-trust motion by the rival leaders in his party. Now that he has nowhere to hide, Nepal has been pushed into another round of political instability. As of now, all indications are that Oli will respect the court's verdict and, if his advisors are to be believed, he won't consider any undemocratic move like imposing an emergency. However, both India and China will be watching the developments very closely as Oli had been re-elected in 2017 on the promise of forging stronger ties with China, a promise he kept all too well! India, which was once viewed as "big brother" to the Himalayan nation, had to play second fiddle to China as Oli danced to the tunes of Beijing and



Chinese Ambassador Hou Yanqi and initiated several major development projects as part of Chinese efforts to boost trade and transit links in the region.

Not only did this end India's monopoly in Nepal, it also led to increased tension between the neighbours as Oli issued many unsavoury and unwarranted remarks against India. The relations soured further as Beijing's influence in Nepal and its meddling in Oli's party grew. The last straw was Nepal coming out with a new political map in May 2020 claiming several areas in Uttarakhand to be part of its territory. However, to India's credit, it kept its cool with its long-time ally and made all-out efforts to mend fences. In the end, Oli did come around to better ties with India, particularly after it became clear to him that China was indifferent to his continuation in the Government if it helped avoid a split in the NCP. The shift in Oli's approach could be attributed to an attempt to reclaim the nationalist agenda that was the mainstay of his campaign that resulted in the NCP's win in 2018. That China lately appeared indifferent to his continuation in the Government is also believed to have contributed to Oli's stand. Now India and China, both jockeying for influence in Nepal, will keep a sharp eye on the political developments there. Where India is concerned, a weak coalition Government could be more supportive of New Delhi than hawkish Oli, who is seen as more interested in remaining in power in whatever way he can.

PICTALK



A farmer checks mustard flowers at a farm on the outskirts of Amritsar

PTI

Continuing travails

COVID-19 cases on the rise again, many States make negative RTPCR test mandatory

It's happened so frequently in the recent history of public health in India that it's almost become a case of "so near and yet so far". Every time the authorities, the health-care workers and the good Samaritans show due diligence and together bring COVID-19 cases under control, either a new strain is detected reaching our country or people — especially those living away from the metros and tier-I cities — ignore the standard protocols and become victims and carriers of the accursed virus. Now the latest news coming in is that the COVID-19 caseload across the country has shown a northward trend for the ninth successive day, crossing 13,000 on Tuesday, which is the longest such rolling average since infections peaked in September last year. In more worrying news, the Union Health Ministry has said that two new strains of SARS-CoV-2, the virus causing COVID-19, have been detected in India. These new strains — N440K and E484K — have been detected in Kerala and Maharashtra. However, there is currently no evidence to show that the recent spike in COVID-19 cases in parts of these two States is due to these new variants.

Meanwhile, negative COVID-19 test report (negative RT-PCR test) has been made mandatory for entering several States: Delhi, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, J&K, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura, Ladakh and Chhattisgarh. Meanwhile, with the recent spurt in Coronavirus cases in five States, Delhi will make it essential for those arriving from these States to carry a negative COVID test report. People travelling to Delhi from Maharashtra, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab by flights, trains or buses will have to show a negative RT-PCR test from Saturday till March 15. But all's not bleak; there is some good news, too. The Union Cabinet has decided to provide the vaccines for free to certain sections, with Union Minister Prakash Javadekar tweeting that beginning March 1 "people over 60 years of age or over 45 with comorbidities will be able to get vaccinated at 10,000 Government facilities and many private hospitals". As of last week, there has globally been a "strong decline" in Coronavirus infections in the US and the UK since January. Inversely, however, it is very likely that such reports are offering a false sense of security to people to take it easy, which shouldn't be the case. If we let our guard down now, India with its population may find it nigh impossible to break free from the clutches of this virus. It's now or never!

Time to look and act East

While democracy is the most sought after means of governance, it becomes a farce when core values are compromised, like in the case of Myanmar

The long-awaited goal of democracy in Myanmar was achieved in 2011 after a five-decade struggle led by civil society, international actors and agencies against an autocratic military in the country. However, the recent *coup d'état* by the national Army has once again led Myanmar to uncertain times. The coup surprised the world and it shall be seen as the outcome of a compromised leadership by Aung San Suu Kyi. Despite registering a mammoth victory in the November 2020 elections, the Suu Kyi-led National League for Democracy (NLD) was accused by the Army and Opposition of poll irregularities, corruption and unethical means in "stealing" the victory; hence, the coup.

While the Union Election Commission has refuted all claims of poll irregularities by the NLD, it was in no way possible that the Army would not act to assert its political victory, considering an uneasy ride with the NLD Government in the last six years.

Amid mounting international pressure, the military junta was forced to pave the way for the entry of democratic forces in 2010. The political prisoners were released, including Suu Kyi, but the NLD boycotted the elections over alleged irregularities by the military-backed Union Solidarity and Development Party. However, over the next five years, the NLD gained popular support which was reflected in the 2015 general elections. The NLD won 168 of the 224 seats in the Amyotha Hluttaw (House of Nationalities), with 25 per cent seats going to the Army without any contest. It indicated more space for pro-democracy leadership and restoration of the multiparty parliamentary system. In 2011, President U Thein Sein had carried out significant political and economic reforms though these were in sync with the needs and demands of the military.

For the current fiasco, one needs to look at the 2008 Constitution of the Myanmar Army as one of the root causes. The Constitution had strength-



ened the Army's role in the parliamentary system on the legal front. Considering the popularity of Suu Kyi in the new political order, the Army had especially added that a President should have a military background and none of his/her spouses be subjects of a foreign power or citizen of a foreign country to limit her chances of holding the President's office as her two sons are British citizens. The Home and the Defence portfolios can be held only by the Army, and the 25 per cent reservation was to keep the military in full control. The emergency powers have further strengthened the Army's position.

In the course of a popular public movement demanding to reinstate a democratic order, Suu Kyi's rise became synonymous to democracy. Yet she failed to condemn and control the gross human rights violations of Rohingyas in the Rakhine State. The refugee Rohingyas moved *en masse* to neighbouring Bangladesh. While the world was looking at Suu Kyi to emerge as a messiah for ethnic Rohingyas, she chose to rescue her own party. More surprisingly, she was seen labelling Rohingyas as

"illegal migrants" who were already tagged as "Islamic terrorists" by the Army. While Amnesty International stripped away her honours, there were calls to take back even the Nobel Peace Prize.

Suu Kyi may have been vocal for democracy in Myanmar but she failed to stand for it while in power. She condemned neither a State-sponsored ethnic cleansing by the Army nor the Buddhist lobby that was reportedly instrumental in the alleged brutalities. Therefore, while the world is condemning the coup, international actors are cautious in defending Suu Kyi. It is an open secret that the NLD co-existed with the Army, but the compulsions of democracy had kept them on different paths. In reality, the Generals never gave up on their political aspirations and failure through the electoral route made the coup evitable.

India has aired its voice in favour of democracy and normalcy in Myanmar. At the same time, New Delhi has opted not to slap any sanctions unlike the US, UK and the EU. As a champion of democracy, India's appeal for its restoration remains the common element across the volatile political surfaces globally. It helps New

Delhi to convey the message of peace and democracy more actively. India's COVID-19 vaccine gift to Myanmar is proof of its commitment to peaceful humanitarian causes.

Meanwhile, as an important country in India's Act East policy, New Delhi needs to look at the Myanmar border with utmost caution. India's challenge will not be limited to tackling an increasing bonhomie between China and the Myanmar Army; the looming political crisis in Bangladesh will double India's Eastern challenge.

The recent *exposé* — 'All the Prime Minister's Men' by Al Jazeera, revealing an alleged criminal nexus between the Bangladesh Army chief, his brothers and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina-led Bangladesh Nationalist Party — has caused an uproar. While the Bangladesh Government has backed the Army, the alleged claims in the *exposé* are of grave concerns. Therefore, the Act East policy needs to include emergency strategies of diplomatic, intelligence, security and political nature.

(The author is an ICSSR Doctoral Fellow at the JNU, New Delhi, and Senior Fellow at the AIDIA, Kathmandu. The views expressed are personal.)



THE CURRENT CASE OF MYANMAR IS NOTHING MORE THAN A MATTER OF COMPROMISED LEADERSHIP THAT WAS UNABLE TO BRING IN FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES IN THE ARMY'S FUNCTIONING

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DISHA RAVI VINDICATED

Sir — While granting bail to activist Disha Ravi, Additional Sessions Judge Dharmender Rana demolished almost every charge levelled against her because "not even an iota of evidence was brought to the court's notice". This a rap on the knuckles of the Centre and the Delhi Police.

Interestingly, before speaking about the conscience of the nation, Judge Rana quoted the *Rig Veda* and reminded the nation: "This 5,000-year-old civilisation of ours has never been averse to ideas from varied quarters." For her part, the activist Disha Ravi said if it was sedition to highlight farmers' protest globally, she was willing to be imprisoned. She also clarified that there was no question of collaborating with the pro-Khalistani group, Poetic Justice Foundation.

But when the court has thrown this "toolkit" charge into the waste paper basket, one wonders whether it has made the BJP feel embarrassed of its own "toolkit": Charging innocent citizens with cooked-up stories, unleashing the ED, IT and/or the CBI on political opponents and toppling State Governments by way of horse trading. I strongly feel that the verdict is an encouragement to and booster for Disha Ravi to stand up against all concocted charges. One should be happy with her bail order but hope she draws a *Lakshman rekha* for herself; otherwise she may keep facing such problems in the future, too.

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee | Faridabad

PROVIDE FREE JOBS TO SENIORS

Sir — Glad to read about the Union Government's decision to vaccinate people above the age of 60 years against Coronavirus from March 1, besides including people above 45 who suffer from comorbidities in the second phase. As per the statement made by Union Minister Prakash Javadekar, India's vaccination drive proposal has been approved by the Union Cabinet and the above-mentioned groups will receive the shot at the Government's expense and at its facilities. The announcement comes at a time when there is an alarming spurt in the

Congress needs a major shake-up



This refers to the editorial 'Shaky leadership' (February 24). With the sun setting for the Congress in Puducherry, it's the ninth State the 'Grand Old Party' has lost since 2014. It now enjoys power in merely three States — Punjab, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh. The story of Congress' decline isn't new; it has virtually been a repeat telecast since the BJP-led NDA came to power. The ideological bankruptcy of the top

leadership has tickled down to the ranks, leading to a crisis at the grassroots.

Though the BJP has the backing of the RSS-type booth-level workers, who are dedicated to consolidating votes in favour of the saffron party, the Congress misses its Sewa Dal whose political significance has been overshadowed by a lack of intent and commitment. Also, the top leadership needs to acknowledge various inputs by the think tank within the Congress, mainly the G-23 (Group of 23 leaders) who wrote to demand leadership reforms. The party urgently needs an overhaul in ideology, besides flexibility to adapt as per the situation's demands.

By playing the card of soft Hindutva, the Congress is falling for the core competency of the BJP and it is bound to boomerang. The party needs to bridge the trust deficit, make the organisation less of a family enterprise and keep the cadres and alliance partners buoyant even in crises.

Nischai Vats | Sultanpur

number of COVID-19 cases across the country, particularly in Maharashtra, Kerala, Gujarat, Punjab, Karnataka and Jammu and Kashmir. I believe that the Centre does not have any alternative but to provide free vaccination to the citizens as quite a lot of people would not be able to afford it, thus preferring to stay back and take recourse to home-made remedies. This development, if it comes about, would totally defeat the purpose of the world's biggest inoculation programme as there would be critical gaps left uncovered in the chain of vaccinated Indians. Also, the Centre must insist that private hospitals also give free vaccines to people aged 60 and above with the cost being borne by the Government.

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

A STADIUM STANDS TALL

Sir — In India, cricket is a religion and we look at our cricketers as demigods. To stay at the pinnacle of our global success in the sport, we need to have world-class stadia

for grooming our youngsters on their way up to the highest level. In this regard, the inauguration of the world's largest cricket stadium in Ahmedabad is a giant leap towards a new era.

The stadium, which was closed for renovation in 2015, has been a witness to some major milestones in Indian cricket in its previous avatar. Sunil Gavaskar reached his 10,000 run-mark in Test cricket here against Pakistan in 1987 and, in 1994, Kapil Dev claimed his 432nd Test wicket to become the highest wicket-taker in the world, surpassing Sir Richard Hadlee. The ground has a state-of-the-art drainage system that will take just 30 minutes from the time it stops raining to flush out the water. Also, it is the only cricket stadium in the world to have four dressing rooms for the players so that back-to-back games can be played on the same day.

CK Subramaniam | Navi Mumbai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUNDBITE

I cannot build any other capital (on the demand that Purnia be the State capital). If anyone else becomes the Chief Minister after me, they can do whatever they wish. I cannot do such a thing.

Bihar Chief Minister —Nitish Kumar



I am frustrated that (French company) Naval Group have not yet been able to finalise this contract but it will not be done at the expense of Australian industry.

Australia's Defence Minister —Linda Reynolds

I miss my long hair. I miss tying that rubber band when I'm bare. I miss my long walks at the lake of my hometown's creek. I miss listening to my old-time playlist.

Actor —Ayushmann Khurrana




Playing 100 Tests as a fast bowler is no mean feat and playing especially in our conditions, things can get so difficult. But he (Ishant Sharma) kept working hard.

Indian captain —Virat Kohli

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister —Yogi Adityanath


FIRST COLUMN

TEXAS MUST READ UP ON GLOBAL WARMING



GWYNNE DYER

It's not funny when people die of the cold but there was some innocent amusement to be had from the indignation of Texans unable to boil their drinking water during the 'Big Freeze' because the power was still out. Things like that are not supposed to happen in a modern, developed country like the US of A. How dare they? Others, aware that Texas has cut every corner in public services that it's possible to cut, were unsurprised by the five-day mini-disaster that struck the country's second-biggest State. One blogger wrote philosophically: "Occasionally, something will happen in Texas to remind the people who live here that we live in a failed State." A winter temperature 25°C colder than usual for the time of year is rare, but this is not the first time it has snowed in Texas. The electricity failed, triggering a cascade of other disasters, mainly because of a long-standing refusal to connect the State power grid with the two main national ones. (This was done to avoid federal supervision on prices and standards). Others have cold snaps too. Germany, Russia, Canada, even northern China get much colder than Texas, but they don't end up freezing in the dark because they are prepared for it. Texas could have been prepared for it, too, but somebody in power would have had to read science journals for that. Since they almost all got elected with donations from fossil fuel producers, that was never very likely. The "explainers" in the media talk about a rogue 'Arctic vortex', but what's really happening is much simpler.



It's just what global warming has done to the northern hemisphere's 'jet stream.' The northern jet stream is a high-speed, high-altitude atmospheric "river" that flows from the West to the East all the way around the planet. It marks the boundary between the Polar air mass, sometimes called the 'Polar Vortex', and the warmer air masses of the mid-latitudes. East-bound airliners crossing the North Atlantic and the North Pacific often hitch a ride on the jet stream, saving up to an hour. The energy that drives the jet stream comes from the temperature difference between the two air masses it divides. However, the Arctic is warming much faster than the rest of the world, so that difference is shrinking and, with less energy the jet stream is slowing down. It used to blast straight East but even then it occasionally developed long S-shaped kinks called 'Rossby waves.' These are big loops extending far North and South of its usual track. As it has slowed down (the average speed is now 150-225 kmph), the Rossby waves have grown more frequent and bigger. They are often now great loops deviating from the straight track and bring with them cold Polar air rarely seen so far South, or warm air not seen previously so far North. That's what happened to Texas last week: One of those Rossby waves brought cold Arctic air all the way South. This pattern will recur and Texans will have to live with it. Climate change doesn't care whether you believe in it or not. And it may get worse. In June-July 2018 record-breaking heatwaves hit western US, Western Europe and the Caucasus-Caspian Sea region, while there was extreme rainfall and flash flooding on the US east coast, in eastern Europe and Japan. It was all happening in big Rossby loops that had taken over the jet stream. All the loops, containing hot dry air or cool moist air, were stuck for over two weeks. By last year, researchers had found that over the last 20 years the same pattern of seven stalled peaks and lows over the same regions has lasted seven times for more than two weeks. In the previous 20 years (1980-2000), that had not happened even once. This suggests that the pattern is getting stronger. And, since the latitudes where the loops are stalling include most of the major "breadbasket" regions of the northern hemisphere, the crop-killing droughts and heatwaves they bring could cause a big loss in world food production. It's the unknowns that do the worst damage. (Gwynne Dyer's new book is 'Growing Pains: The Future of Democracy and Work.' The views expressed are personal.)

Time to tackle online gender violence

Despite the existence of regulatory mechanisms, we have not been able to effectively handle online safety challenges owing to the lack of proper implementation

The internet has evolved as an indispensable tool for transforming our society and culture. Women, especially those living in rural India, have been empowered to speak about their diverse realities, discuss common concerns and organise for change. However, the challenges of censorship and overregulation emanating from actions like blocking of LGBTQ+ sites or silencing of female voices on social media through misogynistic hate speech and trolling, make it essential to find sustainable solutions to these concerns that are threatening the online safety of vulnerable communities. After all, with the internet becoming the ultimate manifestation of our social reality, attaining online equality is paramount for ensuring the same offline.

The feminist landscape of online hate: The last decade has witnessed instances of cyberstalking, rape threats and other forms of gendered violence increase at an alarming rate on the internet. In stark contrast to claims that "cyberhate" is predominantly innocuous, there are a range of academic studies which prove the widespread suffering caused, owing to the consequent social, psychological and economic harm inflicted upon women due to this challenge. The problem of gendered cyberhate has become far more prevalent since the advent of web 2.0, which was marked by the shift towards a greater amount of user-generated content, collaboration, interactivity and information sharing over the web. This facilitated online antagonists to get easier access to their targets in a manner that was never possible before. According to a 2015 report by the United Nations, 73 per cent of women have experienced some form of online violence. An analysis conducted by a leading daily revealed that out of every 10 writers who receive abusive comments online, eight were women.

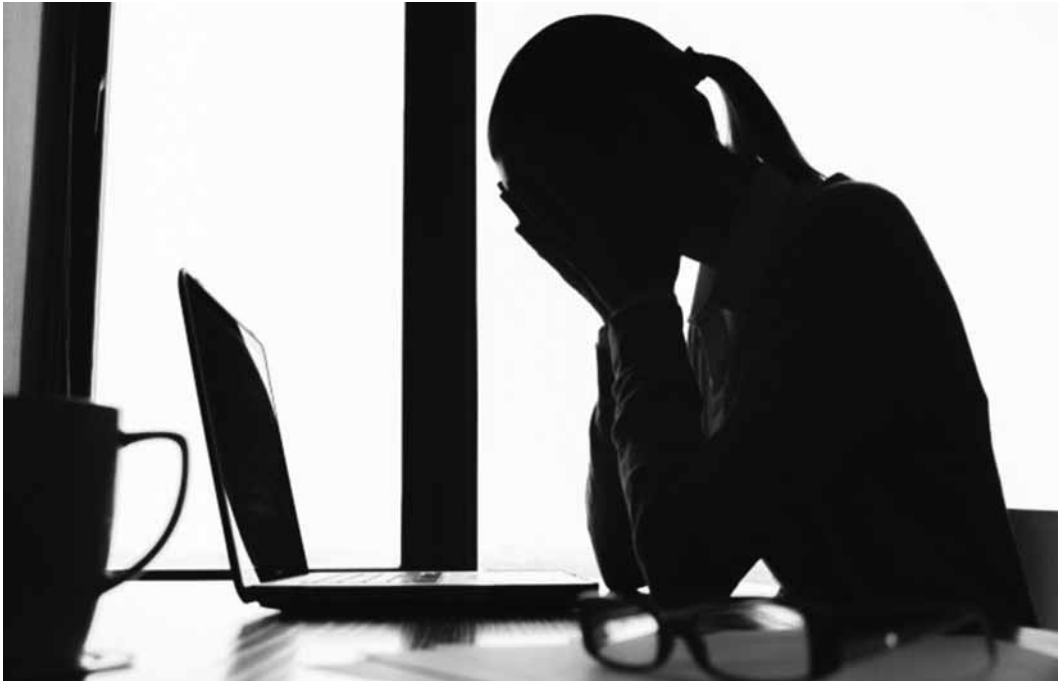
Types of online hate: Online abuse can be placed on a wide spectrum of violence, ranging from mildly irritating (cyberstalking) at one end to unequivocally criminal (revenge pornography) at the other. One peculiar characteristic of this challenge as seen in India and many other developing economies, is the dimension of domestic violence which is increasingly being observed as a major component of most of the cases of online harassment. Some of the most prominent forms of gendered cyberhate faced by women online include cyberbullying, a challenge whose primary target is mainly school and college girls. Then there is cyberstalking, which includes the perpetrator making unwarranted attempts to contact the target by installing a spyware on her phone or hacking her email/social media accounts. Plus there is denial of service, wherein, the online platforms disables the person to voice herself, often due to her unconventional views. Other major forms of online harm are doxing, which involves publication of personally identifiable information about a person that enables online antagonists to find their targets offline, and the most critically dangerous of all including revenge pornography (publishing sexually explicit content, often of a former partner without their consent) and sextortion (hacking webcams, installing malwares or impersonating as someone's romantic interest to obtain intimate information and images).

Implications of the harm on users: Extensive evidence exists to show that gendered cyberhate inflicts significant psychological, social, reputational and economic distress and harm upon women.



A SURVEY CONDUCTED BY FEMINISM IN INDIA UNDERScoreD THAT 50 PER CENT OF WOMEN IN MAJOR CITIES OF INDIA HAVE FACED ONLINE ABUSE. HOWEVER, WOMEN ARE NOT THE ONLY VICTIMS OF SUCH ABUSE. THERE IS CONCURRENTLY RAMPANT ONLINE HARASSMENT OF INDIVIDUALS FROM MARGINALISED GENDERS AND SEXUALITIES AS WELL

Shreya is Policy Research Assistant and Mehta is Strategic Engagement and Research Coordinator, The Dialogue. The views expressed are personal.



This includes putting limitations on their ability to engage in meaningful activism to respond to the challenge of gendered cyberhate itself. This leads to serious concerns of violation of both rights guaranteed under international human rights laws and the Constitution of India, including their right to free speech, right to informational privacy, right to bodily integrity and right to reputation, to name a few. As another major concern, it is seen that women who depend on the internet to earn their livelihood are more prone to receiving online hate. This causes serious repercussions for them to find and keep access to their jobs and socially and professionally network themselves — causing blatant breach of their right to livelihood and gender equality.

Understanding and solving the problem: We must not forget that India has not only bagged one of the top ranks for having the highest number of internet users, but it is also the country that tops the statistics of global sexual harassment. The harassment faced by women in the physical world is mirrored by the image harassment faced by them in the online world. A survey conducted by Feminism in India underscored that 50 per cent of women in major cities of India have faced online abuse. However, women are not the only victims of such abuse. There is concurrently rampant online harassment of individuals from marginalised genders and sexualities as well. A truly intersectional view of the issue demands that it is specifically

addressed through policy and law, as it is evident that the laws at present that were created with the purpose of protecting women are failing at their task to create a safe place online. Cyberhate, specifically, is a growing issue in the Indian online space. With a charged society polarised by religion and politics, the instances of hateful, violating, or mean comments that occur in the comment sections, forums and on other websites or social media have multiplied. In the case of cyberhate not all violations may be explicitly against the law, they are still serious and unacceptable as a part of online presence, as much as it would be in the physical society. It is important to recognise that to truly tackle the issue of cyberhate, our society, platforms and institutions including the Government must come together. Cyberhate must be dealt with at a societal level through awareness and change in mindsets while institutions must provide for zero tolerance and also grievance redressal. It must exist at all levels. For example, employers must show a responsibility and obligation towards staff to provide them with tools or resources to deal with the cyberhate that they might face as a consequence of the work they are required to do online. Also, legal measures and institutional methods against hate speech are unlikely to be able to tackle the sheer volume of online publications. A complete solution would be to work together with ISPs and platforms i.e. intermediaries to develop comprehensive codes of conduct or community guidelines based on

which removal of offensive content takes place. Platforms have the ability to use their technology to detect such content and thereby filter/flag or even remove it. It is equally important to enhance their responsibility in these scenarios to be able to complement the efforts of law enforcement.

The way forward: With the IPC, IT Act and the POCSO rules in place we have adequate laws to tackle cyberhate. The challenge is to effectively implement these laws to ensure safe online space. The Draft Intermediary Guidelines, 2018, envisaged under the IT Act received extant criticism owing to its deleterious impact on free speech and privacy of users. If implemented, it would pierce the encryption-enabled anonymity enjoyed by women and marginalised groups. This anonymity is crucial to tackle trolls with counter-speech and ensure online safety. A recent study explains how the mandate of proactive monitoring under the Draft Guidelines by using automated tools and introducing traceability, by breaking encryption, would undermine the safety of users.

Despite the existence of regulatory mechanisms, we have not been able to effectively handle online safety challenges owing to the lack of proper implementation. The onus of reform cannot be entirely placed on regulation and also lies on the participants in the ecosystem who have a major role in ensuring that progressive laws and policies are rightly implemented and followed. It is the duty of the State to effectively prosecute perpetrators of online hate.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

FOR ME, COMING TO KERALA WAS REFRESHING AS I FOUND THAT PEOPLE ARE INTERESTED IN ISSUES. NOT SUPERFICIALLY BUT GOING INTO DETAILS. —CONGRESS LEADER RAHUL GANDHI



A FEW DAYS AGO HE WAS IN THE NORTH-EAST SPEWING VENOM AGAINST THE WESTERN PART OF INDIA. TODAY HE IS SPEWING VENOM AGAINST THE NORTH. —BJP PRESIDENT JP NADDA



Bumps in the way of adoption of EVs in India

EV technology is the future of mobility but dithering Government measures mean that this amazing technology is still stuck in neutral



KOTA SRIRAJ

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

first two months of the new year, if media reports are to be believed. For many of us, the rise in pollution levels and fuel prices has come as an indication to shift towards EVs or public transport, but in these times of Coronavirus-induced social distancing, jostling in a crowded public conveyance does not seem to be a natural choice. The finality of making an alternative choice for commuting has been further strengthened by the announcement of the vehicle scrappage policy which makes owning an old vehicle in Delhi-NCR impossible and very costly elsewhere in the country. Though this policy has delighted auto manufacturers as new vehicle demand is expected to soar, the citizens whose budgets have been severely hit by the pandemic

may not share the same enthusiasm, as many of their perfectly maintained vehicles will end up in scrapyards. In the midst of this chaos, the EV industry is emerging as the apt solution for all the existent problems, but the Indian EV sector is anything but fully ready to meet the challenge. The auto sector, which was experiencing a slowdown even before the virus' outbreak, came to its knees as the full impact of the COVID-19 contagion was unleashed. The Union Budget addressed the sector's concerns by focusing on reliefs such as tax holidays for EV startups. The setting aside of ₹2,217 crore for 'Clean Air', for 42 urban centres with a million-plus population is also a good move that can spread awareness about the environmental benefits of EVs.



Similarly, the Government's plan for strengthening the public transport sector under the Public-Private-Partnership model with an outlay of ₹18,000 crore for operating 20,000 buses is encouraging for the EV industry. The scheme can help fight air pollution effectively. But inexplicably, this is where the Government's vision gets blurry as the Budget does not mention any EV-focused initiative

or policy, including Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles (FAME). Other expectations, including the ramping up of EV charging infrastructure, enablement of retail financing for EVs and moderation of the inverted Goods and Services Tax (GST) structure along with lowering of taxes on EV input components, including battery, were also not addressed. The EV manufacturers were hopeful of a firmer policy commitment from the Government, especially in the duty structure pertaining to batteries. The Budget platform could have been used to fix the inverted duty structure for components such as batteries from 18 per cent to five per cent and for charging/swapping infrastructure services, too, from

18 per cent to five per cent. For instance, a lithium-ion battery fitted in an EV attracts 12 per cent GST but it is 18 per cent GST when sold separately. Correction of such issues would have lent enormous confidence to EV manufacturers and provided a much-needed push to the sector. Similarly, lowering of import duties on automotive parts instead of raising them would have had the same positive impact on the spirit of the industry, besides lowering the critical costs of production. The absence of an aggressive push from the Government for the indigenous EV industry has raised concerns for its future. World leading EV manufacturers such as Tesla are already eyeing the huge potential of the Indian market. In fact, Tesla has already registered itself as

an entity in India in Bengaluru, with the intention of manufacturing EV cars. Hyundai's Kona and Morris Garages' ZS EV, are already making inroads in the Indian market as we speak. With competition already getting hot, Indian EV manufacturers need more support from the Government in the form of sops, tax holidays for four-wheel EV makers, better GST structures and lower import duties besides robust financing options for the consumers. These measures combined with superior nationwide charging infrastructure can render fossil fuel cars obsolete, paving the way for their phase-out. EV technology is the future of mobility but dithering Government measures mean that this amazing technology is still stuck in neutral in the country.

Oli in no mood to resign, ready to face Parl: Official

PTI ■ KATHMANDU

Nepal Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli will not resign immediately and implement the Supreme Court's verdict against him by facing Parliament that is due to convene within two weeks, an official representing the embattled premier said on Wednesday.

In a landmark ruling, a five-member constitutional bench led by Chief Justice Chandra Shumsher on Tuesday annulled the Oli government's "unconstitutional" decision to dissolve the 275-member lower house of Parliament. The court also ordered the government to summon the House session within the next 13 days.

Nepal plunged into a political crisis on December 20 after President Bidya Devi Bhandari dissolved the House and announced fresh elections on April 30 and May 10 at the recommendation of Prime Minister Oli, amidst a tussle for power within the ruling Nepal Communist Party (NCP).

Oli's Press Advisor Surya Thapa said the prime minister,



Nepalese supporters of a splinter group in the governing Nepal Communist Party participate in a rally to celebrate the Supreme Court order in Kathmandu on Wednesday

who turned 69 this week, intends to implement the verdict of the apex court after facing Parliament that is due to convene within two weeks.

"The Supreme Court's verdict is controversial, however, it should be accepted and implemented. Its effects will be seen in the future as the decision has not provided any solution to the political problems," Thapa said. He claimed that the apex court's verdict will further fuel instability and pave way for

power-play. "The Prime Minister will face the House of Representatives to implement the verdict but will not tender his resignation as of now," Thapa was quoted as saying by The Himalayan Times.

Oli's Chief Advisor Bishnu Rimal, mirroring Thapa's sentiments, said that all will have to accept the court's decision. "However, it provides no solution to existing political complications," Rimal said.

Senate confirms Linda as US Ambassador to UN

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Linda Thomas-Greenfield, a veteran diplomat and Joe Biden's nominee, has been confirmed as America's next ambassador to the United Nations by the US Senate, adding a key member to the President's national security team as it seeks to reengage with the world body.

The 100-member Senate on Tuesday backed Thomas-Greenfield by 78 to 20 votes to be US' representative at the world body and a member of Biden's Cabinet. Thomas-Greenfield, 68, is a 35-year veteran of the Foreign Service who has served on four continents, most notably in Africa.

Vice President Kamala Harris is scheduled to administer her the oath of office at the White House on Wednesday.

"Today's Senate confirmation of Linda Thomas-Greenfield as the US Permanent Representative to the United Nations reinforces President Biden's commitment to restore and expand American leadership on the global stage," Secretary of State Tony Blinken said.

"Thomas-Greenfield is a seasoned diplomat, deeply committed to American values, and the right choice to rebuild our nation's standing at the UN and in other multilateral venues. I congratulate her on her confirmation, and eagerly anticipate our partnership in serving the American people and their interests," Blinken said in a statement.

China says Iran nuclear issue at 'critical point'

Beijing: Developments surrounding Iran's nuclear programme are at a "critical point" and lifting sanctions on the country is key to breaking the deadlock, China's Foreign Ministry said on Wednesday.

Spokesperson Wang

Wenbin's comments came a day after Iran officially began restricting international inspections of its nuclear facilities in a bid to pressure European countries and the US into lifting crippling economic sanctions and restoring the 2015 nuclear deal.

Experts fear fresh wave of prisoners in Myanmar

AP ■ JAKARTA

Whether taken from their homes in the middle of the night or grabbed off the streets during protests, hundreds of people have been arrested in the weeks since Myanmar's military coup, leading human rights groups and experts to fear a sizable expansion in the number of political prisoners in the country.

As of Tuesday, some 696 people — including monks, writers, activists, politicians and others — had been arrested in relation to the coup, according to the Assistance Association for Political



Prisoners, or AAPP, a Myanmar-based organisation. Many of those arrested were charged using a legacy of laws — some dating back to British colonial times and others instituted under previous

military regimes — that have been used against critics by every government, including the one led by Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy party, which was ousted in the Feb. 1 coup.

Myanmar's military junta must relinquish power: US

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Myanmar's military junta must relinquish power and restore the democratically-elected government, the US has said, asserting that it stands with the people and supports their aspirations in reinstating

a civilian-led government in the country. Myanmar's military early this month toppled the government and seized power for one year, detaining top political figures, including de facto leader Aung San Suu Kyi and President U Win Myint in the bloodless coup.

Indonesia presses regional effort to resolve Myanmar crisis

Bangkok: Regional diplomatic efforts to resolve Myanmar's political crisis gathered pace Wednesday, while protests continued in Yangon and other cities calling for the country's coup-makers to stand down and Aung San Suu Kyi's elected government to be returned to power.

Biden would not be okay if Taliban ruled Af: White House

Washington: US President Joe Biden would not be okay if the Taliban ruled Afghanistan, the White House has said, underlining that there is an ongoing process of considering the next steps to ensure peace in the war-torn country.

The US and the Taliban reached an agreement in February 2020 that called for a permanent ceasefire, peace negotiations between the Taliban and the Afghan government, and a withdrawal of all foreign forces by May 1. There are about 2,500 US

troops currently in the country. The Taliban had their ouster at the hands of US-led troops in 2001.

"I don't think he would say he'd be okay with that," White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki told reporters on Tuesday when asked if Biden is okay with the Taliban ruling Afghanistan.

"But again, there's an ongoing process of considering the next steps in Afghanistan. That's an ongoing discussion, and I'm not going to get ahead of where that sits at this point in time," Psaki said.

Afghan Taliban have had sanctuary in Pak: Ex-top US general

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

A former top US military official has told lawmakers that the Afghan Taliban have had sanctuary in Pakistan and the terror group originated from the madrassas in that country.

During a Congressional hearing on Tuesday, General (ret) Joseph F Dunford, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, also told lawmakers that the probability of civil war is high in the wake of a precipitous US withdrawal from Afghanistan.

US, Bangladesh agree to address challenges in S Asia, greater Indo-Pacific region

Washington: US Secretary of State Antony Blinken spoke with Bangladesh Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen and the two leaders discussed ways to deepen economic, defence and counterterrorism cooperation while agreeing to work together to address challenges in South Asia and the greater Indo-Pacific region.

Blinken called Momen over the phone on Tuesday. During their call, they discussed Myanmar, a durable solution to the Rohingya refugee crisis, and the importance of respect for labour and human rights.

Ghana is first nation in world to receive COVAX

Accra: Ghana has become the first country in the world to receive vaccines acquired through the United Nations-backed COVAX initiative with a delivery of 6,00,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine made by the Serum Institute of India.

The vaccines, delivered by UNICEF, arrived at Accra's international airport early Wednesday and are part of the first wave of Covid-19 vaccines being sent by COVAX, an international cooperative programme formed to make sure low- and middle-income countries have fair access to Covid-19 vaccines.

Putin warns of foreign efforts to destabilise Russia

Moscow: Russia's President Vladimir Putin ordered the nation's top counterintelligence agency Wednesday to redouble its efforts to address what he described as Western attempts to destabilise the country.

Speaking at a meeting of top officials of the Federal Security Service, or FSB, the main KGB successor agency, Putin pointed at the "so-called policy of containment of Russia," charging that it includes efforts to "derail our development, slow it down, create problems alongside our borders and undermine the values that unite Russian society."

US to seek election to Human Rights Council for 2022-24 term: Blinken

Washington: Asserting that the Biden administration is placing democracy and human rights at the center of its foreign policy, Secretary of State Tony Blinken announced on Wednesday that the US will seek election to the Human Rights Council for the 2022-24 term, almost three years after it quit the UN's top rights body.

Former President Donald Trump withdrew the United States from the UN's Human Rights Council in June 2018, describing it as a "hypocritical and self-serving organisation" that displayed "unending hostility towards Israel".

The Geneva-based Human Rights Council is a 47-member inter-governmental body with-in the UN system tasked with upholding human rights.

ENGINE BLAST, FIRE KILL 10 AFGHAN CIVILIANS

Kabul: A minivan carrying civilians caught fire on Wednesday after its engine exploded in southern Afghanistan killing 10 family members, including three children, an official said.

SUSPECTED JEHADI REBELS KILL 10 IN NIGERIA

Maiduguri: At least 10 people were killed and about 60 others injured in an attack by suspected jihadist rebels on the northern Nigerian city of Maiduguri, officials said on Wednesday.

THAI COURT OUSTS 3 CABINET MEMBERS

Bangkok: Three Cabinet Ministers in Thailand were forced to leave their posts after a court found them guilty of sedition for taking part in violent protests in 2013-2014 against the Government then in power.

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that a female (depicted in the photo), **Namely** : Anupa **W/o Prince R/o** 143, Village Rajpura, Gurmandi, Delhi has been missing since 12.02.2021 from her house. In this regard a case vide DD No. 43A dated 13.02.2021 has been lodged at Police Station Model Town, Delhi. Her physical description is as under :-

Age : About 32 Years, **Height**: 5'3", **Complexion** : Wheatish, **Face**: Round, **Built**: Strong, **Wearing** : White colour gown and blue colour jacket & green colour sleeper in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing female, may inform SHO, Model Town, Delhi at E-mail Id – **cic@cbi.gov.in** or Website: **http://cbi.nic.in**

SHO
Phone: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No: 011-24368639
DP/675/NW/2021

P.S. Model Town, Delhi
North-West Distt., Delhi
Ph. No. 8750870230

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General Public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Shahin Parveen D/o Mh. Sharif R/o** H.No. H-712, JJ Colony, Shakurpur, Delhi-34 has been missing since 16.02.2021 at 04.00 PM from her residence. In this regard a **FIR No. 64/2021 dated 16.02.2021** has been lodged at PS, Subhash Place, Delhi.

The description of missing girl is as under:

Name: Shahin Parveen, **Father's Name** : Mh. Sharif, **Age** : 16 years, **Height** : 4'9", **Face** : Round, **Complexion** : Wheatish, **Built** : Medium, **Wearing** : Orange Colour Suit, Orange Colour Chunnii, Sandles in feet.

If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned at following phone numbers.

Website : **http://cbi.nic.in**

SHO
e-mail : **cic@cbi.gov.in**
Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641
Extn.-210
Fax: 011-24368639
DP/673/NW/2021

P.S., Subhash Place, Delhi
Ph. : 011-27356336, 27353014,
09871259511, 08750870224

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one girl (depicted in the photo), **Namely:** Bhagwati, **D/o:** Bindeshwar Roy, **R/o:** Village Behrampur, Distt Begusarai, Bihar, **Aged:** 14 years, has been reported missing/ kidnapped from WZ-59, Village Possangipur, Janakpuri, Delhi since 12.02.2021 at 10.00 AM. In this regard a case **FIR No. 44/21 u/s 363 IPC, dated 12.02.2021, has been registered at P.S. Janak Puri, Delhi.**

Her physical description is as under:

Height: 5'2" Feet, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Long, **Physique/Built:** Thin, **Clothing:** Brown Colour Sweater, Yellow Colour Salwar and Chapple in her feet.

Any person having any information/clue about this missing/ kidnapped girl, may inform SHO, Janak Puri, Delhi at E-mail : **cic@cbi.gov.in** or website : **http://cbi.nic.in** Tele No. :011-24368638 or 24368641.

S.H.O
P.S. Janak Puri, Delhi
Ph.: 011-25551410, 25553166

DP/3144/WD/2021.



SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a lady namely **Aarti Devi, W/o Ajeet Kumar R/o** Gali No. 4, Bihari Colony, Parnala, Line Par, Bahadur Garh, Haryana has been missing/kidnapped since 02.01.2021 from the area of PS Nangloi, Delhi. In this regard, **DD No. 83A dated 03.01.2021 has been registered at P.S. Nangloi, Delhi.** Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped lady but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing/kidnapped lady is as under:

Name: Aarti Devi, **Gender:** Female, **Age:** 30 years, **Height:** 5', **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Long, **Identification:** Mentally weak, **Wearing:** Green colour suit-salwar and slippers on her feet.

If anyone has any information regarding this missing/ kidnapped lady, kindly inform SHO/Nangloi, Delhi.

E-mail : **cic@cbi.gov.in**
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639
DP/654/OD/2021

SHO
P.S. Nangloi, Delhi.
Ph. No. 011-25949470, 25947225



SALE NOTICE

The under mentioned Assets will be sold through auction on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for recovery of dues as per court orders, in the following cases:-

CASE DETAILS	ASSET DETAILS
ICICI Bank Ltd vs INDERJEET KOHLI, Case No-CS (COMM) No 669/2019	Vehicle No-DL8CAN5893, Make and Model-HYUNDAI I 20 ELITE MAGNA, Manu Yr-2016
ICICI Bank Ltd vs RAM SEWAK, Case No-CS No.68/2020 (1934/19)	Vehicle No-UP14FT7944, Make and Model-CHEVROLET BEAT PS PETROL , Manu Yr-2016
ICICI Bank Ltd vs PUNIT ., Case No-CS 900/2019	Vehicle No-HR55AA9780, Make and Model-MAHINDRA KUV 100 K4 PLUS D, Manu Yr-2016
ICICI Bank Ltd vs SANJEEV KUMAR, Case No-CS (COMM)2338/19	Vehicle No-DL12B2383, Make and Model-CHEVROLET SAIL LS, Manu Yr-2017
ICICI Bank Ltd vs DALER SINGH, Case No-CS (COMM) No. 1450/2019	Vehicle No-DL8CAU9121, Make and Model-HYUNDAI I-20 SPORTZ DIESEL, Manu Yr-2018
ICICI Bank Ltd vs SUBODH KUMAR, Case No-Suit No 471/17 (ID no 3180 OF 17)	Vehicle No-UP14FT7914, Make and Model-MARUTI ECS VX, Manu Yr-2006
ICICI Bank Ltd vs SAKSHAM KATHURIA, Case No-CS NO 1791/2018	Vehicle No-UP16DT8933, Make and Model-HYUNDAI XCENT, Manu Yr-2016
ICICI Bank Ltd vs CHAND SAIFI, Case No-Case no- 6/18.	Vehicle No-UP16ET2968, Make and Model-NISSAN GO T, Manu Yr-2016
ICICI Bank Ltd vs SUMIT, Case No-CS no. 2143/2017	Vehicle No-DL1LV2002, Make and Model-TATA ACE, Manu Yr-2014, Reserve price of this vehicle is Rs 90,000 and EMD amount is Rs 9000, DD/PO is to be made in favour of ICICI Bank Limited payable at Delhi.
ICICI Bank Ltd vs CHAND MOHAMAD, Case No-CS no. 3687/2017	Vehicle No-DL1LV5880, Make and Model-AL DOST, Manu Yr-2015
ICICI Bank Ltd vs AJAY SINGH, Case No-Suit No 912/2017	Vehicle No-DL1LW2931, Make and Model-AL DOST LS, Manu Yr-2015
ICICI Bank Ltd vs NIRAJ KUMAR, Case No-CS (COMM) 1340/2019	Vehicle No-DL9CAM4737, Make and Model- HONDA CITY 1.5 VX MT PETROL, Manu Yr-2016
ICICI Bank Ltd vs NIDHI SHARMA , Case No-CS (Comm) No. 1397/2019	Vehicle No-UP14DU6650, Make and Model-DUSTER RXE DCI - 85 PS HSRAWA, Manu Yr-2018

Auction Date & Time : 05-March-2021, From 11:00 AM To 02:00PM
Venue: Godara Yard, Khewat No:166/1, Near Atul Kataria Chock, Behind Gyan Devi School, Sec-17, Sukhrali, Gurugram- 122022.
Contact Person – Rajeev Ranjan (8584874809)/Jitendra Kumar (7304914763)
And auction of below mentioned one vehicle will be conducted at Shriram Automall

CASE DETAILS	ASSET DETAILS
ICICI Bank Ltd vs KRISHAN PAL, Case No-CS (COMM) 68/20	Vehicle No-UP14HT9010, Make and Model-TATA ULTRA 1518, Manu Yr-2019

Auction Date & Time : 05-March-2021, From 11:00 AM To 02:00PM
Venue: Shriram Automall, Vill-Mamurpur, Pio Maniyari Road Narela, New Delhi, Narela, Delhi, 110040.
Contact Person– Rajeev Ranjan (8584874809)/ Jitendra Kumar (7304914763)

Terms of Sale

The particulars of the said asset specified herein above have been stated to the best of the information and knowledge of the undersigned, who shall however not be responsible for any error, misstatement or omission in the said particulars. The interested participant/s are therefore requested, in their own interest, to satisfy himself / themselves /itself with regard to the said asset and other relevant details pertaining to it before submitting the bids. Successfully approved bidder shall have to deposit sale amount within 5 days from the approval date by the way of pay order/demand draft/RTGS/NEFT.

The intending bidders may visit at **ICICI Bank Ltd, 1st Floor, SD Tower, Community Center, Plot no-7, Rohini Sector-8, New Delhi-110085**, for details and inspection of the said hypothecated vehicle.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Vimal Kumar Jain is the absolute owner of Flat no-GS-1/175-A, Ground Floor, Vyas Puri, New Delhi-18 having acquired by Requisitionment Deed dated 06.01.2021 (registration No. 260) executed by Mrs. Kamla Devi Jain, Mrs. Manjula Jain, Mrs. Bhansali Ranjanben Ravnorabhai, Mrs. Anita Bomb and Mr. Sanjeev Jain legal heirs of Late Lakshmi Lal Dab.

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

Kamal Kant Gupta (Advocate)
Shop No. 5 & 6, Pkt-E, CSC, Mayur Vihar-II, Delhi-81
011-43052822, 9981006351

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to inform to the public at large that Mr. Bhanu Pratap Singh S/o Sh. Jay Kishore who is purchasing the Residential Plot of Land area measuring 25 Sq. Yds., i.e. 20.90 Sq. Mtrs., out of Kharsa No. 344, situated at Vandana Vihar Khoda Colony, Pargana Aloni Tehsil & District Ghazalabad, U.P. from Sh. Jay Kishore S/o Sh. Natotam Singh owner vide of Notarized General Power of Attorney dated 06.09.1993 executed by Sh. Ram Lal S/o Sh. Kishan, along with ATS, Will and same to be finance & mortgage by Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Ltd. If any Person having any type of claim/right/title/ interest over the said property, may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections, within 7 days from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, lien etc.

269, Rama House, Ground Floor, Masjid Moth, Opp. Uday Park, South Ext.II, New Delhi-49. Contact #011-40046316

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to inform to the public at large that Mr. Shiv Prasad Singh S/o Sh. Ali Ansari who is purchasing the Plot of Land Area Measuring 30 Sq. Yds., OUT OF KHARSA No. 266, SITUATED AT SHIV PARK KHODA COLONY, PARGANA LONI TEHSIL & DISTT., GHAZIABAD, U.P. from Mrs. Kamlesh W/o Mr. Rakesh Kumar owner vide of Registered GPA dated 03.07.2017 executed by Mr. Mahesh Kumar S/o Mr. Siya Ram, along with ATS, Will and same to be finance & mortgage by Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Ltd. If any Person having any type of claim/right/title/ interest over the said property, may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections, within 7 days from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, lien etc.

269, Rama House, Ground Floor, Masjid Moth, Opp. Uday Park, South Ext.II, New Delhi-49. Contact #011-40046316

SEARCH OF MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one male (depicted in the photo), **Namely:** Sanjeev Sikarwar, **S/o:** Sh. Bachan Singh Sikarwar, **R/o:** H.No. 401-A, Police Housing Complex, Sector 11, Rohini, Delhi, **Aged:** 44 years, has been missing since 17.02.2021 from the area of P.S. Model Town, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **DD No. 04-A, Dated 19.02.2021, has been lodged at P.S. Model Town, Delhi.** His physical description is as under:

Height: 6' Feet, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Normal, **Clothing:** Light Pink Colour Jacket, Light Green Colour Trouser and Formal Leather Shoes in his feet.

Any person is having any information/clue about this missing male may inform SHO, Model Town, Delhi at E-mail: **cic@cbi.gov.nic.in** or website : **http://cbi.nic.in** Tele No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641

S.H.O
P.S. Model Town, Delhi
Ph.: 011-27456072

DP/680/NW/2021.



BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II, DELHI.

4TH FLOOR JEEVAN TARA BUILDING PARLIAMENT STREET NEW DELHI - 110001.
OA No. 408/19 **DATE: 20.02.2021**

BANK OF INDIA **APPLICANT**

VERSUS

SIKANDAR ANSARI **RESPONDENT**

To, **DEFENDANT**

SIKANDAR ANSARI S/O SH. ALI ANSARI R/O B-160 WEST AZAD NAGAR NEAR BHAGAT SINGH PARK DELHI - 51

ALSO AT: L-42 1ST FLOOR L-BLOCK SECT.-12 PARTAP VIHAR GHAZIABAD UP

Whereas the above named applicant (s) has/have instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 26,81,551/- (RUPEES TWENTY SIX LAKH EIGHTY ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY ONE ONLY) against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on 14.06.2021 At 10.30 A.M.

Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence.

BY ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL, FOR REGISTRAR DRT-II, DELHI.

Pvt banks can do Govt-related business: FM

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The finance ministry on Wednesday allowed all private sector banks to participate in government-related business like collection of taxes pension payments and small savings schemes.

At the moment, only few large private sector are allowed to conduct government-related business.

This step is expected to further enhance customer convenience, spur competition and higher efficiency in the standards of customer services, an official statement said.

"Embargo lifted on grant of Govt business to private banks. All banks can now participate. Private banks can now be equal partners in development of the Indian economy, furthering Govt's social sector initiatives, and enhancing customer convenience," Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in a tweet.

Private sector banks, which are at the forefront of imbibing and implementing latest technology and innovation in banking, will now be equal partners in development of the Indian economy and in

furthering the social sector initiatives of the government, the statement said.

"With the lifting of the embargo, there is now no bar on RBI for authorization of private sector banks (in addition to public sector banks) for Government business, including Government agency business.

The Government has conveyed its decision to RBI," it added. The government has already announced its intent to privatise two public sector lenders, other than IDBI Bank, in the Budget 2021-22.

Sitharaman, while presenting Budget 2021-22 earlier this month, had announced the privatisation of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) as part of the disinvestment drive to garner Rs 1.75 lakh crore.

"Other than IDBI Bank, we propose to take up the privatisation of two Public Sector Banks and one General Insurance company in the year 2021-22," she had said.

The government last year consolidated 10 public sector banks into four and as a result, the total number of PSBs came down to 12 from 27 in March 2017.

Cabinet approves ₹15,000 cr PLI scheme for pharma sector

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government on Wednesday approved a production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for the pharmaceutical sector, entailing an outlay of Rs 15,000 crore.

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the scheme which will benefit domestic manufacturers, help create employment and is expected to contribute to the availability of a wider range of affordable medicines for consumers. The duration of the

scheme would be from 2020-21 to 2028-29 and is expected to promote the production of high value products in the country and increase the value addition in exports, an official release said. The total incremental sales of Rs 2,94,000 crore and total incremental exports of Rs 1,96,000 crore are estimated during six years from 2022-23 to 2027-28, it added.

The scheme is expected to generate 20,000 direct jobs and 80,000 indirect employment for both skilled and unskilled personnel, as a result of growth in the sector, the release said.

Indian corporate bond market can double to ₹65-70 lakh cr by March 2025, says Crisil

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The supply of corporate bonds in the domestic market is expected to double to ₹65-70 lakh crore by fiscal 2025 with the financial sector contributing around 50 per cent to this growth, rating agency Crisil said.

The demand for corporate bonds, however, is likely to be ₹60-65 lakh crore by March 2025.

"Over the next five fiscals, corporate bond issuances outstanding could

more than double from around ₹ 33 lakh crore or 16 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) at the end of fiscal 2020 to ₹65-70 lakh crore – tantamount to 22-24 per cent of GDP – by the end of fiscal 2025," the agency's Managing Director Gurpreet Chhatwal said during a webinar. The financial sector will contribute around 50 per cent of the incremental supply, followed by innovation (close to 25 per cent) and infrastructure (about 20 per cent), the agency said.

RBI concerned over impact of cryptocurrency may have on financial stability, says Das

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is concerned over the impact cryptocurrencies may have on the financial stability in the economy and has conveyed the same to the government, Governor Shaktikanta Das said on Wednesday.

"We have certain major concerns about cryptocurrencies. We have communicated them to the government.

It is under consideration in the government and I do expect and I think sooner or

later the government will take a call and if required Parliament also will consider and decide," he said in an interview with CNBC-TV18.

"I want to make it clear that the blockchain technology is different.

Blockchain technology benefits have to be exploited, that is another thing.

But on crypto we have major concerns from the financial stability angle and we have shared it with the government. The government will consider and take a call," Das said.

Sensex zooms 1,030 pts, Nifty tops 14,950 in extended session

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity benchmark Sensex soared 1,030.28 points and the Nifty rallied over 270 points on Wednesday, tracking strong buying in financial stocks, after trading hours were extended following a technical glitch at NSE.

After resumption of trade at 3.45 pm, NSE Nifty zoomed 274.20 points or 1.86 per cent to end at 14,982.

Similarly, the 30-share BSE index settled 1,030.28 points or 2.07 per cent higher at 50,781.69.

Axis Bank was the top gainer in the Sensex pack,

surging around 5 per cent, followed by HDFC twins, ICICI Bank, Bajaj Finance and SBI.

On the other hand, PowerGrid, Dr Reddy's, TCS and Asian Paints were among the laggards.

Minutes before the scheduled closure of trade at 3.30 pm, leading bourses BSE and NSE said their equity and derivatives markets will remain open till 5 pm.

The move came after the National Stock Exchange (NSE) suffered an outage earlier in the day due to technical glitches. Trading across segments came to a halt at 1140 hrs due to connectivity issues.

Rupee firms up 11 paise to close at 72.35 against US dollar

Mumbai: The rupee furthered its gains by another 11 paise to settle at 72.35 against the US dollar on Wednesday amid persistent selling of the greenback by banks and exporters.

Besides, positive domestic equities and weaker American currency in the overseas market also helped the rupee consolidate gains.

At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened at 72.35 against the greenback and witnessed an intra-day high of 72.26 and a low of 72.41.

Gold falls ₹148, silver declines ₹886

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Gold prices on Wednesday fell Rs 148 to Rs 46,307 per 10 grams in the national capital, due to overnight selling in global prices and rupee appreciation, according to HDFC Securities.

The precious metal had closed at Rs 46,455 per 10 grams in the previous session.

Silver also declined Rs 886 to Rs 68,676 per kilogram, compared with the close of Rs 69,562 per kilogram in the previous trade.

Flipkart plans to deploy 25K electric vehicles by 2030

Bengaluru: A day after Amazon India said it has deployed nearly 100 Mahindra Treo Zor three-wheelers, e-commerce marketplace Flipkart on Wednesday said it will deploy more than 25,000 electric vehicles in its supply chain by 2030.

Flipkart said it has already started piloting and deploying two-wheeler and three-wheeler electric vehicles in multiple locations for delivery across the country, including in Delhi, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Guwahati and Pune, to name a few.

I-T refunds worth over ₹1.95 L cr issued so far this fiscal year

New Delhi: The Income Tax Department on Wednesday said it has issued over Rs 1.95 lakh crore worth refunds to over 1.93 crore taxpayers so far this fiscal. Of this, personal income tax refunds of Rs 69,653 crore have been issued to over 1.90 crore taxpayers and corporate tax refunds of Rs 1.26 lakh crore have been issued in 2.17 lakh cases. "CBDT issues refunds of over Rs 1,95,736 crore to more than 1.93 crore taxpayers between 1st April, 2020 to 22nd February, 2021," the I-T Department tweeted.

First 'Made in India' piling rig launched

New Delhi: With aim to boost "Make in India" campaign and reduce India's dependence on construction equipment imports, Sany India launched its first "Made in India" piling rig, "SR235", for all arduous applications, from soft soil to hard rock. "With the launch of our first-ever 'made in India' SR235 piling rig, Sany India has reaffirmed its commitment to the 'vocal for local' initiative," said Sanjay Saxena, vice president & business head, heavy equipment, Sany Heavy Industry India Pvt Ltd.

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General Public is hereby informed that one girl **Namely: Anjali, D/o: Satyender, R/o: A-371, Street No. 8, Indra Enclave II, Kirai, Delhi** has been missing/ kidnapped since **30.01.2021** at 12:00 pm. from the area of P.S. Prem Nagar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **FIR No. 80/21 U/s 363 IPC dated 03.02.2021** has been registered at P.S. Prem Nagar, Delhi.

The description of the missing girl are as under: **Age: 17 years, Sex: Female, Height: 5'3", Face: Round, Hair: Black, Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Strong, Wearing: Pink colour kurti, leggings and pink colour shoes in her feet.** Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this girl kindly inform to the following.

Website: http://cbi.nic.in
E-mail Id - cbc@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639
DP/690/RD/2021

SHO
P.S. Prem Nagar, Delhi
Ph.: 8750870322

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General public is hereby informed that one female namely **Bhagwati Devi with son Asm (age 11 months) W/o Mangal Singh R/o 203, Gali No.3, Near Shiv Mandir, Ranhola, Delhi** has been missing/ kidnapped from the area of PS: Ranhola, Delhi since 23.01.2021. In this regard, a case **DD No. 76-A Dated 27.01.2021** has been registered at P.S. Ranhola, Delhi. The description of the missing female are as under.

Age: 23 Years, Complexion: Fair, Height: 5', Face: Round, Wearing: Pink colour sari and sleepers in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing/kidnapped female then please inform P.S. Ranhola, New Delhi at following Tel No./e-mail: **cic@cbi.gov.in** and Website: **http://cbi.nic.in**, providing clue about the missing girl.

Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639
Sd/- SHO
PS: Ranhola, Delhi
Ph.: 011-28363002
DP/675/OD/2021

SALE NOTICE

The under mentioned Assets will be sold through auction on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS"** and **"AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"** for recovery of dues as per court orders, in the following cases:-

CASE DETAILS	ASSET DETAILS	Reserve Price	EMD Amount (10% of Reserve Price)
ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Ankit Bhadana, Case No- CM (M)- 231/2020	Vehicle No- HR38V7561, Make and Model-HYUNDAI XCENT, Manu Yr- 2015	1,00,000/-	10,000/-
ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Lalit Kumar, Case No- CM (M) 536/2020 & CM Appl. 27473/2020	Vehicle No- UP14CD4738, Make and Model- MARUTI ALTO 800 LXI CNG, Manu Yr- 2014	50,000/-	5,000/-
ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Archana Raj, Case No- CM (M) 573/2020 & CM Appl. 29273/2020	Vehicle No- UP14ET7203, Make and Model- CHEVROLET ENJOY LT, Manu Yr- 2015	60,000/-	6,000/-
ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Mohd Adil, Case No- CM (M) 599/2020 & CM Appl. 30342/2020	Vehicle No- UP14CS9040, Make and Model- MARUTI SWIFT DZIRE, Manu Yr- 2015	1,80,000/-	18,000/-
ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Mehkar Singh, Case No- CM (M) 549/2020 & CM Appl. 27986/2020	Vehicle No- UP16DT4118, Make and Model- CHEVROLET ENJOY, Manu Yr- 2015	1,60,000/-	16,000
ICICI Bank Ltd Vs Subodh Kumar, Case No- CM (M) 602/2020 & CM Appl. 30659/2020	Vehicle No- UP14FT6208, Make and Model- RENAULT LODGY RXE, Manu Yr- 2016	1,80,000/-	18,000/-

Auction Date : 06-March-2021
Venue: Godara Yard, Khewat No: 166/1, Near Atul Kataria Chock, Behind Gyan Devi School, Sec-17, Sukhrali, Gurugram- 120222.
Contact Person – Rajeev Ranjan (8584874809)/Jitendra Kumar (7304914763)
EMD: DD/PO of EMD amount to be made in favour of ICICI Bank Limited, payable at Delhi.
Contact Person – Rajeev Ranjan (8584874809)/Jitendra Kumar (7304914763)
Terms of Sale
The particulars of the said asset specified herein above have been stated to the best of the information and knowledge of the undersigned, who shall however not be responsible for any error, misstatement or omission in the said particulars. The interested participant/s are therefore requested, in their own interest, to satisfy himself / themselves/ itself with regard to the said asset and other relevant details pertaining to it before submitting the bids. All bidders are required to come at site with original DD/PO of EMD amount along with original KYC proofs to participate in the auction.
Successfully approved bidder shall have to deposit sale amount (Excluding EMD amount) within 5 days from the auction date by the way of pay order/demand draft/RTGS/NEFT. In case if you fail to make the remaining sale amount within 5 days, your EMD amount will be forfeited.
The intending bidders may visit at ICICI Bank Ltd, 1st Floor, SD Tower, Community Center, Plot no-7, Rohini Sector-8, New Delhi-110085, for details and inspection of the said hypothecated vehicle.

Rajasthan Skill and Livelihoods Development Corporation

राजस्थान कौशल एवं आजीविका विकास निगम
A Government of Rajasthan Enterprise
EMI Campus, J-8-A, Jhalana Institutional Area, Jaipur 302004 (Rajasthan)
Ph: +91-141-2705917, 5103248, Fax: +91-141-5103246, www.rajasthanlivelihoods.org

RFP No: RSLDC/Services (DDU-GKY)/8.75C/OCB/2020/30222-227 Date- 22.02.2021

Notice Inviting Request for Proposals

Managing Director, Rajasthan Skills & Livelihoods Development Corporation (RSLDC)
Dept. of Skill, Govt. of Rajasthan, invites proposals (Single Bid Two Envelope System) from reputed and experienced Agencies for Selection of a competent and qualified bidder providing services of manpower at Block Level for various Skill Development Schemes of Rajasthan Skills & Livelihoods Development Corporation (RSLDC) for effective Implementation and Monitoring of DDU-GKY Scheme in Rajasthan through deployment of Human Resources at State as well as at District & Block Levels.

The Proposal has to be submitted through online mode on <https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> and can be searched by clicking the Tab "Bid Free View" on home page of above website and then going to Live Bid/ Hot Bid by searching Department Name as "RSLDC". UBN No. SLD2021RFP0001
Raj.Samwadi/C/20/10191 Managing Director

DELHI JAL BOARD

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER WEST-III

NANGLOI PH-III: NEAR BARAT GHAR: NEW DELHI-110041

"STOP CORONA : Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"

N.I.T. No. 35 WEST-III/ (2020-21)

S. No.	Description	Amount put to tender	Tender Fee	Earnest Money	Date of release of tender in e procurement solution	Last date/time for tender download through e procurement solution
1	Improvement of water supply system by Replacement of old damaged water line from Metro Pillar no 750 to 768 on Najafgarh Road in Uttam Nagar AC 32 under EE (West) III.	Rs. 25.42,641/-	Rs.500/-	NIL (Declaration to be filled)	23.02.2021 I.D. No 2021_DJB 200454_1	12.03.2021 at 3:00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at (<http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>.)

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 439 (2020-21)

Sd/-
EX. ENGINEER (WEST) III
ASHOK KUMAR
EE (WEST) III

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General Public is hereby informed that one boy namely Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o** Unknown, **Age:** About 5 years, **Height:** 3', **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, wearing Fancy Blue Jeans Shirt and Khaki colour Half Pant and Yellow colour Slipper in feet, was found abandoned at Main Bazar, Pahar Ganj, Delhi on 17.08.2020 at about 10:30 PM. The is Child kept in CHG-IIIrd, Quarantine Center, Nari Niketan Building, Unit-I, Nirmal Chhaya, Delhi. In this regard a **DD No. 123A, dated 17.08.2020** has been registered at **P.S. Pahar Ganj, Delhi**.

Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the boy's family but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about their family please inform undersigned.

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 24368641
DP/663/CD/2021

SHO
P.S. Pahar Ganj, Delhi
Ph: 8750012525, 8750042525

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is here by informed that this person (depicted in the photo) namely: **Vikash S/o Moti Lal Maharaj R/o L-17, Gali No.24, Mahendra Park, Delhi** has been missing/ kidnapped from the jurisdiction of P.S. Mahendra Park since 16.02.2020. In this regard DD No.47A Dated 18.02.2020 has been registered at **PS. Mahendra Park, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the person but no clue has come to light so far.

His physical description is as under:-
Sex: Male, **Age:** 29 years, **Height:** 5'6", **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Oval, **Built:** Strong, **Wearing:** Purple Colour T-shirt and Black colour Capri.

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

SHO
P.S. Mahendra Park, Delhi
Ph. No. : 011-27632501
Mob. No. : 8750870227
DP/677/NW/2021

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Tel. No. : 011-24368638/24368641
Fax No. : 011-24368639

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General Public is hereby informed that one child/boy namely **Raj, S/o Sh. Murari, R/o Bal Sahyog, Connaught Circus, Opposite L Block Market, New Delhi, Age: 8 years, Height: 4', Hair: Black Normal, Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Wearing: Green Linedaar Shirt, Blue Sweater, Blue Pant and Black Colour shoes in his feet and putting cap on his head** has been missing/kidnapped from the jurisdiction of P.S. Barakhamba Road, New Delhi District on 27.11.2017. In this regard a case **FIR No. 182/17 U/s 363 IPC, dated 28.11.2017** has been registered at **P.S. Barakhamba Road, New Delhi**.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing boy but no clue has come to light so far, if any one having any information about this boy please inform undersigned.

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.nic.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639
DP/228/NDD/2021

SHO
P.S. Barakhamba Road, New Delhi
Ph.: 011-23413800, 8750870527

SEARCH FOR MISSING WOMAN




General public is hereby informed that this woman namely Sandhya W/o Karan Singh R/o B-104, Rajeev Nagar, Begumpur, Delhi **Age : 21 years, Height : 5'1", Complexion : Fair, Face : Oval, wearing blue colour shirt and grey colour jeans, has been missing since 10.02.2021. In this regard DD No. 7-A, dated 11.02.2021** has been lodged at P.S. Begumpur, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this missing woman and her son may kindly inform to the following.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
Fax: 24368639,
Tel.: 24368638/24368641

SHO : P.S. Begumpur, Delhi
Ph. : 011-25951431, 25951432
DP/684/RD/21

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified person **Namely : Khem Chand S/o Unknown R/o Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi Age : about 50 years, Height : 5'6", Complexion : Wheatish, Wearing : White colour shirt and grey colour pant** has been found in burned condition at Baba Balak Nath Mandir, Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi on 20.02.2021. He brought to LNJP Hospital, Delhi, where during treatment he died on 20.02.2021. In this regard a case vide DD No. 07A dated 20.02.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi.

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

SHO :
P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi
DP/68/RLY/2021
Tel. No. 011-23961522, 23980685

SEARCH FOR MISSING FEMALE



General public is hereby informed that one female namely **Soni (along with her son age 8 months) W/o Sunny, R/o House No. B-2/101, Sector-20 Rohini, Delhi. Age 23 yrs., Height 5', Shallow Complexion, Thin built, Round face, wearing red colour suit-salwar** is missing since 01.02.2021 from the area of **PS Aman Vihar, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing female but no clue has come to light so far.

In this regard a **DD No. 83-A Dt. 03.02.2021** has been lodged at **PS Aman Vihar, Delhi**. Any person having any information or clue about this missing female may kindly inform to the following.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-23011334
Ph.: 011-23014046
011-23015218
DP/688/RD/2021

S.H.O., PS Aman Vihar, Delhi.
Ph.: 011-27581812, 27581223

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



The general public is hereby informed that an unidentified person about 40-45 years of age whose name, residence, and family is unknown had been found dead near Jai Mata Dharamkant, C-Block, Prem Nagar-1, Delhi. In this regard, a vide has been registered with **DD No: 45A, dated 08.02.2021 at PS Prem Nagar, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to identify the deceased person, but no clue has come to light so far.

The description of the UIDB is as under:
Sex: Male, **Age:** about 40-45 years, **Height:** 5'8", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** Blue colour jacket, multi-colour jersey, grey colour shirt, blue colour vest, blue colour underwear.

If anyone has any information about his relatives, kindly inform the SHO/Prem Nagar, Delhi.

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639
DP/696/RD/2021

P.S. Prem Nagar, Delhi.
Ph. No. 011-25489080, 9315164042

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Sachin S/o Prakash R/o A-Block, Near Quereshi Meat Shop, Sudarshan Park, Basai Dara Pur, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 169/19, U/s 381 IPC** has been registered at **P.S. Kirti Nagar, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Sachin** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Sachin** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Sachin** accused of **FIR No. 169/19, U/s 381 IPC, P.S. Kirti Nagar, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer said complaint on or before **12.04.2021**.

By Order
Dr. Jagminder Singh, Chief Metropolitan Magistrate,
West Distt. Room No. 146, 1st Floor,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi
DP/346/WD/2021-(Court Matter)

Fiscal Indicators:

- Estimated revenue receipts ₹1 lakh 84 thousand 330 crore 13 lakh.
- Estimated revenue expenditure ₹2 lakh 8 thousand 80 crore 17 lakh.
- Estimated revenue deficit ₹23 thousand 750 crore 4 lakh.
- Estimated fiscal deficit 147 thousand 652 crore 77 lakh which is 3.98 per cent of GSDP.
- First paperless budget in the State.

Corona management:

- Special COVID package.
- 2000 each to 33 lakh destitute families.
- Interest free loan up to ₹50,000.
- Seed money to start-ups, five lakh each.

Medical and health :

- Rajasthan Model of Public Health (RMPH).
- Nursing colleges at 25 district headquarters.
- Construction of hospital buildings and increase in various facilities including beds.
- 30 new PHCs and upgrading of 50 PHCs to CHCs.
- Upgrading hospitals as district hospitals, 10 new trauma centres.
- New district hospitals at Kota with 150 beds.
- Increase of 1000 beds in different hospitals.
- 12,000 Health and Wellness Centres.
- New ICU and NICU at medical colleges and new ICU at district hospitals.
- Institute of Tropical Medicine and Virology and Institute of Cardiology at Jaipur.
- Increase of medical facilities at SMS Medical College, Jaipur.
- 'Umaid Post Graduate Institute of Maternity and Neonatology and 'Regional Cancer Institute' at Jodhpur.

Road Safety:

- New *Jeevan Rakshak Yojana*.
- Integrated Traffic



Management System (ITMS)

- Primary Trauma Centre at 40 CHCs.
- ₹100 cr for Dedicated Road Safety Fund.
- New DTO and Sub DTO offices.

Education:

- Smart TVs and set-top boxes in schools, ₹82 cr.
- 1200 new English medium-Mahatma Gandhi Schools in next two years.
- Increase in infrastructure facilities in schools, ₹1450 cr.
- Directorate of Peace and Non-Violence.
- Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Governance and Social Sciences-MGIGSS at Jaipur.

ON TRACK

Rajasthan Chief Minister ASHOK GEHLOT presents the 2021-22 State Budget. Here are a few salient features

- Fintech Digital University at Jodhpur.
- Rajasthan Institute of Advanced Learning at Jaipur.
- New colleges including girls-Sanskrit colleges and new ITIs.
- Four new girls colleges in the name of Late MLAs Master Bhanwar Lai, Kailash Trivedi, Kiran Maheshwari and Gajendra Singh Shaktawat.
- Rajiv Gandhi Centre of Advance Technology (R-CAT) at Jaipur, ₹200 Cr.
- Science and Space Clubs in 1500 government schools.

Youth and Employment:

- Internship of unemployed youth under *Mukhyamantri yuva sambal yojana-2019*, hike

- of ₹1,000 in allowance.
- Constitution of Rajeev Gandhi Yuva Core, 2500 Rajeev Gandhi Yuva Mitra and 50000 Rajeev Gandhi Yuva Volunteers.
- Common Eligibility Test, one-time verification system.
- Free travel in Rajasthan Roadways for exams.
- Recruitment on more than 50,000 posts in next two years.
- Indoor stadium at Pratapgarh and Stadium at Rajasmand and Sirohi.
- Gram Panchayat, Block, District and State level Popular games tournaments, expenditure of ₹30 cr.
- Two new residential sports schools at Jodhpur and Jaipur.

- New archery academy at Dungarpur and Handball academy at Jaisalmer.

Agriculture and Animal Husbandry:

- Agriculture Budget from next year.
- Minifood park in each district, ₹200 Cr.
- Mega food park at Mathania-Jodhpur, ₹100 Cr.
- 1000 *Kisan Sewa Kendra*, 1000 new posts of agriculture supervisors.
- Provision of more than ₹16000 cr for agriculture electricity subsidy.
- New Agri-Discom.
- 50,000 solar pumps and 50,000 agriculture electricity connection to the farmers.
- Works of ₹1000 cr at *Krishi Upaj Mandis*.
- Kisan Complex at Jodhpur, ₹20 cr.
- Three new agriculture colleges at Dugarpur, Hindauli, Hanumangarh.

Industries:

- New MSME policy.
- Industrial areas at 64 sub divisions.
- Organising Rajasthan Investors Summit at Jaipur.
- Fintech Park (Financial Technology) at Jaipur.

Social Security:

- Announcement of Rajasthan Pattern.
- Rajasthan Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Development Law.
- Ambedkar DBT Voucher Scheme, 5000 Beneficiaries.
- Eight new ekalavya model residential schools.
- Construction of eight minority boys hostels.
- Construction of three minority girls residential schools.
- Minority boys hostels at Jaipur, Jodhpur and Kota.
- SC, ST, OBC, Minority Development Funds, ₹100 cr each.
- Increase in scholarship of special abled students.

- 2000 scooty for specially abled students and youths.

Infrastructure Development: Roads — Urban Development:

- New State Road Policy 2021.
- Major repair works of three prominent roads in each district, ₹1900 cr.
- Major repair works of roads in Nagar Nigam, Nagar Parishad and Nagar Palika areas.
- Development of 27 state highways, ₹3880 cr.
- DPR of high level bridge in Kota district.
- Constitutional Club at Jaipur.
- Master Drainage System for Bharatpur, ₹200 cr.

PHED-WRD:

- 12 new major drinking water projects under JJM, ₹4700 cr.
- Starting of six new projects worth ₹2285 cr under JJM.
- Drinking water connections to 20 lac households under JJM.
- DPR for 22 projects under JJM.
- Providing drinking water from Kumbharam lift, ₹7700 cr.

Energy:

- Energy Policy 2021-2050
- Green Corridor of 6.3 Gigawatts by RRVPN.

Forest and Environment:

- Development of Keoladeo National Park as Wetland Birds Habitat Conservation Centre.
- Wildlife Management Training Centre at Talchapar Sanctuary, Churu.
- *Kailash Sankhla Smriti Van* at Jodhpur.

Tourism, Art and Culture :

- Provision of ₹500 cr in Tourism Development Fund.
- Shekhawati Tourist Circuit.
- Godawad Tourist Circuit.
- Renovation of seven RTDC midways, ₹10 cr.
- Religious Tourist Circuits, ₹100 cr.

IN SHORT

Harendra Pratap, Chief Editor, Laghu Udyog Samachar, Government of India giving away Pandit Tilakraj Memorial Honour to Sulakshana Bhatia, Senior Programme Director, ICCR, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India in Delhi.



Aluminium industry has a legacy issue of inverted duties on the primary inputs namely primary aluminium. ASMA (Aluminium Secondary Manufacturers Association) in association with IIFT, New Delhi, has done a study to understand the various anomalies associated with the tariff structure on the

primary and secondary imports in the aluminium sector. Imports from both FTA and non-FTA countries are studied, claims ASMA. It is found that India does not gain much by exporting primary aluminium but surrenders competitiveness of its downstream sector by paying higher for primary aluminium (imported or domestically bought) due to premium induced by high tariffs on import to fulfill its requirements, states ASMA.

Located atop the Malangtoli Hills in Joda Block, Pidhapokhri village, with a population of around 200 households, has been facing acute scarcity of water since decades. Due to local hydro-geological factors, it was a challenge for district administration to provide drinking water to the Joda block. Water used to be supplied in tankers, twice a day, which barely met the minimum needs of people, leading to multiple development deprivations. It is in this context that a 'Household Piped Water Supply Project' for the village was sanctioned through District Mineral Foundation at a cost of ₹2.63 cr in 2018 under the leadership of collector and DM, Keonjhar Ashish Thakare. Under the project, water sourced from a natural spring is lifted to a height of more than 300 feet using a 10 HP solar pump to an overhead tank and then supplied to households through individual tap connections, after filtration. Even though construction of the drinking water infrastructure was a major challenge, Rural Water supply and sanitation (RWSS) program which comes under Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Department, Govt of Odisha successfully completed the project.



All the street lights of the metropolis will be rectified before the Holi festival i.e. March 28. For this, the Municipal Corporation Ghaziabad has started a campaign. There are about 65,000 street lights in all 100 wards of the metropolis. City Commissioner Mahendra Singh Tanwar informed that a team of lighting department headed by Additional Municipal Commissioner Shiv Pujan Yadav has been formed in this regard. It is in this context that a 'Household Piped Water Supply Project' for the village was sanctioned through District Mineral Foundation at a cost of ₹2.63 cr in 2018 under the leadership of collector and DM, Keonjhar Ashish Thakare. Under the project, water sourced from a natural spring is lifted to a height of more than 300 feet using a 10 HP solar pump to an overhead tank and then supplied to households through individual tap connections, after filtration. Even though construction of the drinking water infrastructure was a major challenge, Rural Water supply and sanitation (RWSS) program which comes under Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Department, Govt of Odisha successfully completed the project.



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will monitor all the street lights to be fixed. Instructions have also been given to manage proper lighting in the parks and decorate the electrical poles. The city commissioner informed that Yogesh Srivastava, the in-charge of lighting, will inspect the internal lanes in all the five zones of the metropolis. He informed that to make this campaign a success, cooperation of RWA and councilors of various colonies is also being taken.

— PNS (Ashok Nirwan)

Along with all the awareness programmes being run on cancer, the government has now directed to provide special OPD and day care facility for cancer victims in every district hospitals. For this, on behalf of the Director General, Medical and Health Services, a district doctor and two staff nurses have been directed to be deployed in all district hospitals of the State. Dr. Kiran Garg, NCD Clinic, has been nominated on behalf of Chief Medical Superintendent of Ghaziabad District MMG District Hospital, Dr. Anurag Bhargava, CMS. Apart from this, staff nurses Tanu and Gayatri Devi have been nominated for the day care facility being launched for cancer. Dr. Kiran is posted in the NCD (Non Communicable Disease Clinic) operating in the old building of District Women's Hospital and has been instrumental in tobacco control programs for cancer prevention. In fact, the purpose behind the introduction of special OPD and day care facility for cancer in district hospitals is that the disease can be detected in the first stage itself.



— PNS (Ashok Nirwan)



COVID-19 vaccination programme for front line workers started at Kasturba Gandhi Hospital of CLW from Tuesday as a part of National COVID-19 Vaccination Drive. District Health Authority and Nodal officer of CLW and ACMS/P Dr. J. Mitra jointly administered the vaccination programme. The available vaccines require a two-dose schedule to be administered two, three or four weeks apart. These vaccines are administered through the intramuscular route. About 120 front line workers from RPF, RPSF participated in the drive. After vaccination, all of them were observed for 30 minutes. Around 404 health workers had already received the first dose of the vaccine since the launch of the drive on February 1 in CLW. The beneficiaries who were given the first shot on Day 1 will be administered with the second dose from March 1. An exclusive observation facility under an anaesthetist and a physician is set up at the vaccination centre with beds, oxygen supply and ventilators to render supportive care.

Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has won six awards for its efforts in field of communication at the PRSI National Awards-2020 conferred upon by the Public Relations Society of India. The awards were given away by Baby Rani Maurya, Governor of Uttarakhand and Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank, Union Minister for Education, Government of India, during a virtual ceremony on Sunday. SAIL has been awarded in the categories of House Journal (English), Best Communication Campaign (External Publics), Communications Campaign of the Year - Covid-19, Special/Prestige Publication, E-newsletter and Corporate Website categories.



Step towards better services

Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) during its 184th Meeting held on Monday under the chairmanship of Santosh Kumar Gangwar, Minister of State for Labour & Employment (Independent Charge), Govt. of India has taken several significant decisions to improve its service delivery mechanism and strengthen the medical infrastructure benefiting its insured workers.

◆**Relaxation in contributory conditions to avail sickness benefit to the insured women availing maternity benefit**

After the enhancement in duration of maternity benefit from 12 weeks to 26 weeks, in some cases insured women were not eligible to avail sickness benefit in the corresponding benefit period after availing maternity benefit as the mandatory contributory conditions of minimum 78 days were not met.

In such cases, it has now been decided that an insured women will be qualified to claim sickness benefit in the corresponding benefit period if the contribution in her respect were paid or payable for not less than half the number of days available for working in such shorter contribution period.

◆**Relaxation in contributory conditions to avail sickness and maternity benefits for the benefit period of January to June, 2021**

The pandemic resulted in the non-entitlement to avail sickness and maternity benefits for many insured persons/women as the mandatory days of contribution couldn't be met. Considering the hardship being faced by insured persons, ESIC has now decided to extend the relief to the IPs by relaxing the contributory conditions for availing the sickness and maternity benefits for the benefit period of January to June. Now, an insured Woman will be entitled to avail maternity benefit, if the contributions in respect of her were payable not less than 35 days



in immediately preceding two consecutive contribution periods.

In case of IPs/IWs appointed before the contribution period April-September, 2020, the eligibility condition will be decided on the basis of their contribution in previous contribution period i.e. September '2019 to March '2020, whereas, the IPs/IWs appointed during the contribution period April-September, 2020 will be eligible for sickness benefit in the benefit period January-June '2021 if contribution in respect of them were payable for not less than half the number of days available for working to them during the contribution period April-September '2020.

◆**ESIC to construct 300 bedded hospital including 50 super specialty beds at Haridwar, Uttarakhand**

To meet the medical services needs of IPs in Haridwar and surrounding districts, the ESI Corporation has decided to construct 300 bedded ESIC Hospital including 50 bedded super specialty beds and staff quarters in five acres of land at Haridwar, Uttarakhand. After construction, the hospital will provide medical care services to around 2.55 lakh insured workers and their family members.

◆**ESIC to construct 350 bedded hospital with additional 50 bedded SST wing at Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**

The ESI Corporation has approved the project of construction of 350 bedded hospital with an additional 50 bedded SST wing and 128 staff quarters in a plot area

of 8.72 acres (approx.) at Sheelanagar, Vishakhapatnam. The proposed hospital, after construction, will provide medical services to around 14 lakh beneficiaries covered under ESI scheme in Vishakhapatnam and surrounding areas.

◆**Establishment of negative pressure ICU at ESIC super specialty hospital and medical college at Hyderabad, Telangana**

The decision to establish Negative Pressure ICU at ESIC Super Specialty Hospital & Medical College at Hyderabad, Telangana was also taken during the meeting. The establishment of Negative Pressure ICU will decrease the burden of infection to the healthcare workers and the secondary infections to other critically ill patients admitted in the ICU.

◆**Revise estimates**

The ESI Corporation has also approved the revised estimates and budget estimates for the year 2020-21 & 2021-22 and performance budget for the year 2021-22 during the meeting.

Besides these, around 25 other agenda items pertaining to improvement in service delivery mechanism were also reported and approved. The other dignitaries were Apurva Chandra, Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India, Anuradha Prasad, Additional Secretary, MoLE, GoI & Director General, ESIC, members of ESI Corporation, Sandhya Shukla, Financial Commissioner, ESIC, Garima Bhagat, CVO, ESIC and many others.

Delhi BJP President, Adesh Gupta, Member of Parliament, Meenakshi Lekhi and North Delhi Mayor, Jai Prakash inaugurated the Material Recovery Facility Centre for solid waste management under Zakhira flyover. On the occasion Standing Committee Chairman, Chhail Bihari Goswami, Leader of House, Yogesh Verma, former Chairman Standing Committee, Veena Virmani, Councillors, Vipin Malhotra, Sunita Mishra, Former MLA, Subhash Sachdeva, Former Councillor, Bharat

Bhushan Madan and other dignitaries were present.

On the occasion, Gupta said that in the adverse conditions North Delhi Municipal Corporation is providing every possible facility to the citizens. He said that this facility centre would help North DMC in solid waste management.



Prakash said that this is first of its kind semi-automated waste management system in Delhi. He said that this centre would be operated by Chintan (NGO). Material Recovery Facility center has state of the art machineries which can process upto eight tons of waste per day. This socio-technological model for segregation and recycling

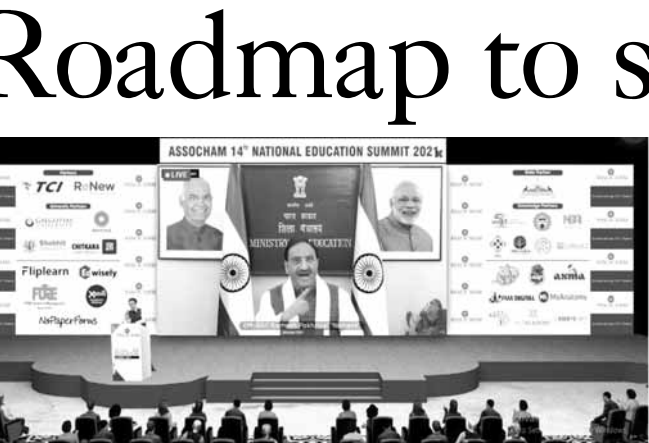
aims at developing solid waste management infrastructure for North DMC in a scientific manner in pursuance of the Swachh Bharat Mission and the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.

Founder-Director, Chintan (NGO), Bharati Chaturvedi said, "We will work with the North DMC to reduce the waste going to the Bhalsawa landfill."

The 14th National Education Summit 2021 was organised by ASSOCHAM from February 18 to 20 2021 (virtually as well as physically) with National Book Trust, India as the knowledge partner. The three-day summit discussed the impact of the National Education Policy 2020 on transforming the educational landscape of the nation and carving a road map for its implementation. Inaugurating the summit virtually, Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', Minister of Education began with the objective that NEP will prove to be the dawn of a new India as the knowledge superpower. In his inaugural address, Dr

Nishank said that the policy which has been brought after much deliberation, is being praised not only by the country but all over the world. He praised ASSOCHAM's contribution in the process of its formation.

In the next session of the program, Prof. Govind Prasad Sharma Chairman, National Book Trust, India shared his views on the "Researching Quality Assurance in Higher Education — Accreditation and Ranking of Universities" in the National Education Policy 2020. He said that quality education assurance has an important role to play in the development of any country. He praised the option of multiple entry



and exit points afforded to the student by NEP-2020.

Yuvraj Malik, Director National Book Trust, India in the afternoon session on "Road map for universalisation of education with 100 per cent GER in school education by 2020" spoke about the five deliverables of the NEP 2020 that will help turn it from a vision document to ground reality. Affordability, accountability, equity, accessibility and quality of

education will help build a strong foundation which in turn will curate a knowledge based citizenry, a global citizen. The Guest of Honour at this session was Dr Arun Kumar Sahoo, Odisha Cabinet Minister, Higher Education.

In the physical session on "Multidisciplinary Education and Research Universities — An Approach to Attain the Highest Global Standards in Quality Education", the Guest of Honour Dr Vinay Sahasrabudhe, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, Chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sport and President

ICCR shared his thoughts with the audience. Speaking at the session, Yuvraj Malik Director, NBT said, "Our education sector is an institution for nation building that influences the collective consciousness of the nation". Talking about the NEP 2020, he said that it is a vision document for our future generation, a draft for their future and each one of us has to come together as a stakeholder, be it teachers, schools, educationists, principals, owners, private institute honors, everyone has to contribute only then can we build a nation which we can call *Aatma Nirbhar Bharat*, and the developed India as a *viksit and shikshit bharat*.

Roadmap to success

