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KAMALA HARRIS AS VICE PRESIDENT FURTHER
CEMENTS US-INDIA RELATIONSHIP: WH

SPORT 12
LIVERPOOL LOSE
AT ANFIELD

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Farm parleys fail on misgivings

Farmers' unions reject Govt's offer to put farm laws on hold, insist on repeal; next talks date not fixed as rift widens

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Two days after the Government offered to keep in abeyance the three farm laws, the rift widened between the Government and farmers' unions on Friday. In the 11th round of meeting, farmer unions rejected the Government's offer and insisted on complete repeal of the three laws. Both sides hardened their stands and could not even reach a decision on the date of the next meeting.

In the very beginning of the meeting, farmer leaders said that they have decided to reject the proposal to put off farm laws for 18 months.

Hardening its stand, the Government asked farmers' unions that the next round of talks will only continue if they agree to accept the proposal by Saturday. Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh

Tomar said the Centre has asked farmers to consider its proposal on the temporary suspension of the implementation of the farm laws.

The Minister added that the next meeting would be scheduled only after farmers' unions come back with a response. He blamed external "forces" for their rigid stand and said no resolution is possible when the sanctity of agitation is lost.

Meanwhile, farmer leaders alleged even as the meeting lasted for nearly five hours, the two sides sat face to face for less than 20-25 minutes and for the rest of the time, they were in a separate room. Farmers' leaders said they felt "insulted" by the manner in which the Ministers treated them.

"The Minister made us wait for three and a half hours. This is an insult to farmers. When he came, he asked us to

consider the Government's proposal and said that he is ending the process of meetings," said SS Pandher of Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee.

At the meeting, the Union Ministers told farmers' unions that they have been given all possible options and they must discuss internally the proposal of suspending the laws. Sources said the Ministers were not happy with the farmers' decision to go ahead with their plan to hold tractor rally on Republic Day in Delhi.

Continued on Page 2



Farmer leaders during meeting with the Central Government on new farm laws at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi on Friday. AP

Covaxin effective with no side effects: Lancet study

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

While a section of health experts have raised questions about the efficacy of the Hyderabad-based Bharat Biotech's anti-Covid-19 vaccine, Covaxin, a report in The Lancet Infectious Disease journal has said the vaccine showed enhanced immune response without any serious side effects in the participants enrolled for the phase 1 trials.

Bharat Biotech has developed the vaccine in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and

the National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune. Covaxin has been granted emergency use authorisation (EUA) in clinical trial mode by the Government.

Covaxin, which is now undergoing phase-3 trials, had raised concerns among experts over its emergency approval earlier this month. The vaccine, codenamed BBV152, was well tolerated in all dose groups with no vaccine-related serious adverse events, noted the authors of the study funded by Bharat Biotech.

Continued on Page 2

COVID JOBS EFFICACIOUS, SAFE, PM DISPELS FEARS

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A week after the first dose of anti-coronavirus vaccines was given to front-line health workers, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday interacted with those involved in the Covid-19 vaccination drive in Varanasi, his Lok Sabha constituency, and assured those anxious about the safety of the desi vaccines. Detailed report on P2

Cong to get elected chief by June after 5 Assembly polls

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Friday announced that the grand old party will have an elected president by this June. The schedule announced by the party's working committee will ensure that the new president will escape responsibility for the outcome of the five State Assembly elections that will be held in May or before.

After three and a half hours meeting, the CWC authorised incumbent interim party chief Sonia Gandhi to schedule the internal election after the conclusion of Assembly polls in five States.

Addressing a joint Press conference to brief details of the CWC, Congress leaders KC Venugopal and Randeep Surjewala said elections to the CWC will also be held, but it remains to be seen whether they can be scheduled before or after the election to the Congress chief's post.

AICC sources said the Central Election Authority has proposed the holding of polls



for electing the party president and AICC session on May 29 and the working committee discussed the dates but authorised Sonia Gandhi to schedule them after the Assembly polls.

The CWC passed three resolutions demanding a repeal of the three agriculture laws, a time-bound JPC probe into the alleged violations of national security and Official Secrets Act and another to ensure that the Government ensures free time-bound Covid-19 vaccination for the poor and oppressed sections.

Continued on Page 2

CAPSULE

₹5L SOLATIUM TO EACH KILLED IN K'TAKA BLAST

Bengaluru: Karnataka Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa on Friday announced a compensation of ₹5 lakh each to the kin of those who died in Shivamogga blast and asserted that his Government was committed to stop all illegal mining in the State.

TEEN, NEPHEW KILLED IN UP; RAPE SUSPECTED

Chitrakoot: A 15-year-old girl was hacked to death with an axe allegedly after being raped and her four-year-old nephew killed in a village here, police said on Friday. A 30-year-old man from the girl's village has been arrested in connection with the crime which took place on Thursday, they said.

Another Minister quits Didi Govt, likely to join BJP

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Amid speculation that more politicians might join the BJP ranks during Union Home Minister Amit Shah's January 31 rally in Howrah, another Bengal Minister Rajib Banerjee on Friday put in his papers holding out some "emotional details" before the media moments after tendering his resignation to the Governor.

Rajib is the third Minister to resign from the Mamata Banerjee Government in a month after Suvendu Adhikari and Laxmi Ratan Shukla.

Detailed report on P5

'Chalo bulawa aaya hai' singer Narendra no more

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Popular "bhajan" singer Narendra Chanchal, best known for his songs "Chalo bulawa aaya hai" and "Tune mujhe bulaya sherawaliye", died following prolonged illness at a hospital here on Friday, sources in the hospital said.

Chanchal, 76, breathed his last at 12:15 pm at the Apollo Hospital after suffering from brain complications, the sources said.

The singer, who is survived by his wife Namrata, had been admitted to the south Delhi hospital on November 27.

Born to a Punjabi family in Namak Mandi, Amritsar, Chanchal's growing up years in



a religious atmosphere inspired him to start singing "bhajans" and "aartis" (devotional songs) from a very young age.

In Hindi cinema, he found fame with the song "Beshak Mandir Masjid" for the 1973 film "Bobby", the blockbuster debut of Rishi Kapoor and Dimple Kapadia.

Continued on Page 2

Ministry of Culture
Government of India



A Day of Pride to Celebrate Netaji's Indomitable Spirit and Selfless Service to the Nation

23rd JANUARY

PARAKRAM DIWAS



Commencement of the 125th Birth Anniversary Year Celebrations of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

by
Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

on 23rd January 2021 | 4:00 PM onwards
Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata

Major highlights of the Parakram Diwas Celebrations

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will

- Inaugurate a Permanent Exhibition "Nirbheek Subhas"
- Inaugurate Projection Mapping Show on Netaji
- Unveil the book 'Letters of Netaji'
- Release Commemorative Coin and Memorial Postal Stamp
- Felicitate INA Veterans

Parakram Diwas Address by the Prime Minister

India will always remain grateful to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose for his bravery and indelible contribution to resisting colonialism. He stood up for the progress and well-being of his fellow Indians

- Narendra Modi

Resolute Initiatives towards Preserving the Precious Legacy of Netaji

2015, 2016

With a deep sense of heritage and commitment to the nation, Government of India declassified, digitized and released more than 100 files related to Netaji

2018

The Nation celebrated the 75th Anniversary of the first Tricolour hoisting by Netaji on Indian land at Andaman and Nicobar Islands. As part of commemorations, Ross Island was renamed as Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Dweep, Neil Island as Shaheed Dweep and Havelock Island as Swaraj Dweep

2019

To commemorate 75 years of the establishment of the Azad Hind Government, the Subhas Chandra Bose museum was set up at Red Fort

Watch live on Doordarshan and All India Radio 4:00 PM onwards

A FEW HOSPITALS SEE 100 INOCULATIONS Walk-in jab boost vaccination in Delhi

New Delhi: With the Centre tweaking the Co-Win app to allow walk-in vaccinations in a bid to boost figures, some hospitals across the city saw a better response on Thursday. On day 4 of the Covid vaccination drive at 181 sites, 5,942 people received the shot — up from 4,319 on Saturday, 3,598 on Monday and 4,936 on Tuesday — while 24 AEFI (adverse event following immunisation) were reported.

AIIMS saw 62 workers getting the shot, a slight increase from Tuesday's 55. RML and Safdarjung saw 35 and 34 vaccinations respectively, as compared to 27 and 30 on Tuesday. One of the hospitals that hit the target of 100 vaccinations a day was Delhi government's Lok Nayak Hospital — it saw 32 vaccinations on Saturday, 12 on Monday and 35 on Tuesday. Dr Amit Gupta, nodal officer at Lok Nayak, said: "By around 2.45 pm, we had already hit our target of vaccinating 100 people. Those who are coming are not necessarily on the list; with this new feature, any MCD hospital or dispensary staff — as long as they are registered — can come and get vaccinated, provided

there are available slots. The app allows only 100 people to be vaccinated a day. There are more than 3,000 staff and healthcare workers at the hospital, he said. Dr Namrata Sarin (58), a senior doctor from Hindu Rao hospital, was among those to get the shot at Lok Nayak. "I am feeling relieved, it is a good thing we were able to produce a vaccine so fast. The process is meticulous — staff are monitoring people and trying to make everyone comfortable," she said. Asha (28), a civil defence worker at Lok Nayak who also



got vaccinated at the hospital Thursday, said: "I didn't experience any side effects. I am extremely relieved now that I have taken the vaccine." At Rajiv Gandhi Super Speciality Hospital (RGSSH) in Dilshad Garden, however, the turnout has declined. While 45 healthcare workers received the shot on January 16, the figure dipped to 20 on Monday and 9 on Tuesday, before increasing

slightly to 20 on Thursday. Of the 20 people vaccinated, only five were on the list. A nodal officer at the hospital said: "RGSSH seems to be doing worse than other centres in Shahdara, either due to the apprehension among people or because mobilisation has not happened properly." Abhishek (22), a technician at the hospital who is on the list but did not turn up, said, "I shall wait for a few days to see what the side effects are before I decide to take it. I am apprehensive as a colleague took the vaccine and had fever for two days."

Covid jabs efficacious, safe, Modi dispels fears

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



A week after the first dose of anti-coronavirus vaccines was given to front-line health workers, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday interacted with those involved in the Covid-19 vaccination drive in Varanasi, his Lok Sabha constituency, and assured those anxious about the safety of the desi vaccines. Instilling confidence among those who were vaccinated in the first phase of the vaccination drive in the country, the PM said there are no major side-effects of the vaccine and that India is absolutely self-reliant in regard to jabs. The beneficiaries said they have experienced no side effects, mental or physical. "If anything it feels like a normal injection," they said. The Prime Minister, Ministers and other elected leaders or "key functionaries" are expected to take shot of the vaccine in the second phase to boost the public confidence in the ongoing vaccination. The second phase of vaccination would focus on the priority group above the age of 50 in the country. Of the two available vaccines — Covaxin or Covishield — every beneficiary will need to receive two doses of the same vaccine, 28 days apart. Addressing the beneficiaries and those administering the shots through video conference, Modi also expressed pride over the development of two vaccines in the country to tackle coronavirus pandemic.

"The biggest vaccination programme in the world is going on in our country. Today, the nation has the willpower to manufacture its own vaccine - not one but two Made in India vaccines. Vaccines are reaching every corner of the country. India is absolutely self-reliant in this regard," the PM said. Modi sought to dispel fears and misconceptions over the efficacy and safety of Covid vaccines in an interaction with health workers in Varanasi, his Lok Sabha constituency. "When doctors and health workers give a clean chit to the vaccine, it sends a very strong message among people about the efficacy of the jab," he said. The PM said politicians or politics has no role in deciding the efficiency of the vaccine. The PM kicked off the nationwide Covid-19 vaccination programme via video conferencing on January 16, as he congratulated India and the country's scientists and researchers for developing two vaccines in such a short span of time. Nearly 10.5 lakh people have been administered one of the two vaccines approved by the regulator. But several people, including some doctors and other healthcare workers, seem to be hesitant.

Lalu Prasad's reports normal; Rabri, Tejashwi meet him

Ranchi: The test reports of RJD President Lalu Prasad, who was admitted to the Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) here following complaints of uneasiness in breathing, have returned normal barring a hint of pneumonia. According to doctors of the hospital, the test reports of ECG, ECO, Covid-19, blood, ultrasound and others have returned normal. The tests were conducted on Friday and the reports came in the evening. With special permission of the jail administration, the RJD chief's wife Rabri Devi and sons Tejashwi Yadav and Tej Pratap met Lalu Prasad at the hospital on Friday evening. Lalu Prasad is serving jail term in Ranchi following his conviction in the fodder scam cases. The RJD supreme had complained of uneasiness in breathing on Thursday evening, following which a panel of doctors at RIMS took the necessary steps to stabilise his health. The former Bihar Chief Minister underwent a rapid antigen test on Thursday, the report of which has returned negative. Meanwhile, the Jharkhand government led by Hemant Soren is keeping an eye on Lalu Prasad's health status. Jharkhand health minister Banna Gupta had met Lalu Prasad at the hospital on Thursday. IANS

CBI books 2 UK firms for harvesting FB users' data

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has registered a case against two UK-based firms -- Global Science Research Limited (GSR), UK, represented by Dr Aleksandr Kogan and Cambridge Analytica, UK, represented by Alexander Nix -- under IPC Sections relating to criminal conspiracy and cyber crime under the Information Technology Act for the alleged illegal harvesting of personal data of 5.62 lakh Indian Facebook users for commercial purposes. Earlier, a Preliminary Enquiry was conducted by CBI based on a complaint from Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology. "It was revealed in the enquiry that the founder and director of first UK-based company 'Global Science Research Limited' had allegedly created an app 'thisyourdigitalife' and this app was authorized to collect specific data of its users in Facebook (FB) as per their platform policy. It was alleged that the app illegally harvested additional data of FB users and of their friends on FB," the CBI said in a statement. It was further alleged that

335 Indians had installed the app and data of approximately 5.62 lakh FB friends of these users was harvested in unauthorized manner by the app without their consent, the agency said. It was also alleged that the said company (Global Science Research Limited) entered into conspiracy with a second UK-based company (Cambridge Analytica) during 2014 and gave rights to use this illegally harvested data to the second company for commercial purpose, it said, adding that the investigation is continuing. The Preliminary Enquiry was converted into a Regular Case (FIR) after the enquiry revealed commission of criminal offences by Cambridge Analytica and GSRL. The app 'thisyourdigitalife' was authorized to collect specific user data for academic and research purposes in 2014 according to Facebook's policy. But the app also collected additional unauthorized data of users illegally, the CBI probe has revealed. This data, including demographic information, pages liked and contents on private chats, was collected without the knowledge and consent of the app users, an

official said. The GSRL then entered into a criminal conspiracy with Cambridge Analytica, allowing it to use the data harvested by it for commercial purposes, the official said. "Responding to the CBI's queries, Facebook told the CBI that GSRL illegally collected personal data of around 5.62 lakh users in India and shared it with Cambridge Analytica. The consulting firm then allegedly used the data to influence elections in India," the official said. There are over 20 crore users of Facebook in India. During a debate in Parliament in July 2018, Information Technology Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad had said that the CBI was investigating London-based data analytics firm Cambridge Analytica, accused of illegally sourcing Facebook data to influence political campaigns and compromising personal information of Indian voters. Prasad had announced the CBI probe into the issue in the Rajya Sabha in response to a calling-attention motion on how rumours and fake news on social media were fuelling violence.

2 including juvenile detained for killing elderly woman

Gurugram: Two men including a juvenile have been detained for the murder of a 65-year-old woman in Gurugram's Sohna area, the police said, adding that the crime reportedly took place on Friday morning. According to the police, the investigation team have detained the culprits involved in the crime and are questioning them. Names of the accused will be disclosed after investigation. Police said the victim's body, which was lying on the floor, was first noticed by her domestic help inside her house at Kayastha wada colony of Sohna in Gurugram on Friday morning at around 5 a.m. Her head had been slashed brutally with some blunt object and her entire house

was ransacked. A case of robbery and murder was filed at Sohna city police station on Friday. "Prima facie, it was a case of robbery and murder. The woman was a widow and used to live alone. Her two children have settled abroad," the police said. "During questioning it came to fore that one of the accused had been renting in the house of the deceased for some time, so he knew that the woman lives alone in the house and has enough money. He shared this information with his accomplices and they hatched a plan, killed the woman and fled with the jewellery, cash and other belongings of the woman," said Preet Pal Sangwan, ACP. IANS

Covaxin effective with no side...

From Page 1
The same results were earlier published in the preprint server medRxiv in December. However, there has been no new data released in the public domain which could demonstrate further safety and efficacy of the preventive. The authors said all adverse events were mild and moderate, and were more frequent after the first dose, adding that one adverse event was reported but was unrelated to the vaccine. The randomised phase 1 trial to assess the safety and immunogenicity of BBV152 was carried at 11 hospitals across the country. Adults aged 18-55 years who were deemed healthy by the investigator

were eligible. Between July 13 and 30, last year, 827 participants were screened, of whom 375 were enrolled. Among the enrolled participants, 100 each were randomly assigned to the three vaccine groups, and 75 were randomly assigned to the control group. Two intramuscular doses of vaccines were administered 14 days apart. "BBV152 led to tolerable safety outcomes and enhanced immune responses. The vaccine was well tolerated in all dose groups with no vaccine-related serious adverse events," the authors of the study said. The most common adverse event was pain at the injection

site, followed by headache, fatigue, and fever. Covaxin is an inactivated vaccine developed by chemically treating novel coronavirus samples to make them incapable of reproduction. This process leaves the viral proteins, including the spike protein of the coronavirus which it uses to enter the human cells, intact. Given as two doses, three weeks apart, the viral proteins in the vaccine activate the immune system and prepare people for future infections with the actual infectious virus. According to Bharat Biotech, the therapeutic can be stored at room temperature for at least a week.

Farm parleys...

From Page 1
"The Government has given the best, solution-oriented proposal to farmer organisations. We asked them to reconsider our proposal as it is in the interest of farmers and the country. Talks remained inconclusive as farmers' welfare was not at the heart of talks from the unions' side. I am sad about it. Farmers' unions said that they only want the repeal of the laws despite the Government asking for alternatives. We should remain hopeful. We asked them to

convey their decision tomorrow (Saturday). Let's wait to hear farmer unions' final decision," Tomar said after the meeting. Taking a hardline position, the Minister said some external force was definitely trying to ensure that the agitation continues and those were obviously against the interests of farmers. "The Government gave many proposals to end the protest, but no resolution is possible when the sanctity of an agitation is lost," he said. Asked whether he expects farmers to agree to the

Government offer, he said, "I don't want to speculate, but we are hopeful that farmer unions will consider our proposal positively." On whether he saw any division among the union leaders on the Government proposal, Tomar did not give a direct reply but said, "We thanked all farmer leaders, including those who support our proposal and those who are against it." During the meeting, farmers alleged the Delhi Police is trying to harass their leaders. One of the union leaders alleged that the rear wind-

shield of his car was smashed by the Delhi Police. The car belongs to one Rudu Singh Mansa. Darshan Pal one of its leaders received a threatening phone call while Hannan Mollah was manhandled by police. As the 11th round of talks remained inconclusive, farmer leaders have threatened to intensify their protest. The break, during which farmer leaders had their langar (community kitchen) food, lasted for more than three hours. The break also saw 41 farmer leaders holding con-

sultations among themselves, at times in smaller groups, while the three Union Ministers waited in a separate room at Vigyan Bhawan. Farmer leader Shiv Kumar Kakka who was the first to leave the talks said there was no headway in the discussions and the Government asked unions to deliberate on its proposal again. After the meeting, Bharatiya Kisan Union (Ugrahan) leader Joginder Singh Ugrahan said the discussions have broken down as the unions rejected the Government's proposal.

'Chalo bulawa aaya hai' singer Narendra no more

From Page 1
He won the Filmfare Best Male Playback Award in 1974 for the song. One of his most popular tracks was "Chalo Bulawa Aaya Hain Mata Ne Bulaya Hain" from Rajesh Khanna's 1983 drama "Avtar". In 2009, Chanchal released his autobiography "Midnight Singer", chronicling his life from his early struggles and hardships to his achievements. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was among the many people who condoled his death. Chanchal had carved a

unique place for himself in the field of devotional music with his voice, the prime minister said on Twitter while expressing his condolences to the singer's family and fans. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said his thoughts are with Chanchal's family and admirers in this hour of grief. "The death of Narendra Chanchal ji, who made many bhajans popular with his mellifluous voice, is an irreparable loss," Gandhi wrote on Telegram. His party colleague Abhishek Singhvi also sent his condolences.

"#NarendraChanchal Ji is one of the names that automatically pops into mind when we think of Bhajans or Mata ka Jagrata. A true devotee of Devi Mata. Om Shanti!" he said on Twitter. Describing him as a talented singer and a devotee of Matarani, singing legend Lata Mangeshkar said she was saddened at the news. "He was a very good person, may his soul rest in peace. I offer humble tribute to him," she said. Singer Daler Mehndi, actor Manoj Bajpayee, actor Ranvir Shorey and music composer

Vishal Dadlani also mourned his death. "Rest in peace Narendra Chanchal sahab!!! What a singer with such inspiring voice. Singing your songs now in your memory. God bless your soul with peace," Bajpayee tweeted. "Saddened at the demise of vocalist Sh. Narendra Chanchal, singer of many iconic bhajans & Hindi film songs in history. His unique voice had the ability to pierce straight to a listener's heart, making every listening experience an emotional & spiritual one. #RIP #respect," Shorey tweeted. Mehndi termed Chanchal

an "iconic and most loved" singer. "In prayers for his soul to rest in peace. Heartfelt condolences to his family and legions of fans," he said. Dadlani said Chanchal will be remembered forever through his songs. "I doubt anyone will ever walk up to Vaishnodevi without hearing his voice resounding through the hills," he said. Filmmaker Madhur Bhandarkar also mourned Chanchal's passing away and said the singer will be "remembered for his bhajans and some remarkable songs in Hindi films." PTI

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Sunitil Kumar (CHA Firm)

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is hereby brought to the notice of the public at large, that (1) Original Allotment letter (2) Original Possession letter both issued by Delhi Development Authority related to the Plot no. 10, situated in LSC in Pocket- 7, Vasant Kunj, Delhi in name of M/s Fabindia Overseas Pvt. Ltd., had been misplaced & could not found till date. The Public at large is hereby informed that M/s Fabindia Overseas Pvt. Ltd., who is present owner of leasehold rights in the property and have leased certain credit facilities from HDFC Bank Ltd. against security of the aforesaid Property except above mentioned title documents relating to said Property, with the Bank for creation of equitable mortgage. Any person, who comes in knowledge or possession of aforementioned original title documents, may please return the same to above mentioned property address or at below mentioned address. Any person or authority dealing with the deeds/documents and / or the aforesaid Property and/or deriving any benefit by impersonation or claiming any interest in the aforesaid Property on the basis of said documents or in any manner whatsoever, he/she/it shall do so at his/her/its own cost, expense, liability and risk or may also send his/her/its claims in writing to the undersigned along with documentary evidence in support of the said claim.
Sushil Kumar Singh (Advocate)
Office F-10, LGF, Jangpura Extn.,
New Delhi Ph: 011-403-48896.

कार्यालय उपनिदेशक (वि०/या०)
राज्य कृषि उत्पादन मण्डी परिषद उ०प्र०
नवीन मण्डी स्थल मुण्डेरा, अतिथि गृह प्रथम तल, प्रयागराज
पत्रांक- (वि०/या०)/आगणन-2021-530 दिनांक 22/1/2021
ई-कोटेशन नोटिस
मण्डी समिति वाराणसी क्षेत्रान्तर्गत करखियाँव में मैंगो पैक हाउस विद्युत कार्यों के सम्बन्ध में नान शिडयूल मदे/दरों हेतु दिनांक 12.02.2021 को ई-कोटेशन आमंत्रित किया जाता है। बिल ऑफ क्वांटिटी मण्डी परिषद के वेबसाइट www.ettender.in पर देखा/पढ़ा जा सकता है। दिनांक 11.02.2021 तक अपराह्न 1 बजे तक डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है तथा उसी दिन 5 बजे तक बिल डाक्यूमेंट कार्यालय में जमा करना अनिवार्य होगा। दिनांक 12.02.2021 अपराह्न 1 बजे ई-कोटेशन खोला जायेगा। एक अथवा समस्त ई-कोटेशन बिना कारण बताये निरस्त करने का अधिकार सक्षम अधिकारी होगा।
नोट :- मात्र उपरोक्त कार्य की दरें प्राप्त करने हेतु कोटेशन आमंत्रित किया गया है। जबकि इन दरों पर कार्य आवंटित नहीं किया जायेगा तथा फर्म से कोई एफडीओआर एवं डीडीओ आदि का कोई शुल्क नहीं लिया जायेगा।
उपनिदेशक (वि०/या०)
मण्डी परिषद, प्रयागराज।

Cong to get...

From Page 1
"The CWC decided that there will be an elected Congress president by June 2021 at any cost," AICC general secretary KC Venugopal said. He said the little change in schedule depending on the State elections will be decided soon. "The CWC discussed the schedule of Congress president's elections in May-end, proposed by its election authority. All CWC members unanimously requested the Congress president that the internal elections should not interfere with the Assembly elections." He said the Congress president was requested unanimously to reschedule AICC Plenary Session to the end of June 2021 and the Congress chief's election would be concluded by June 2021. "We will conduct elections as per the Constitution of the party. We need a change of schedule due to Assembly polls as counting would be underway in May," he said. Asked about any dissenting notes on the holding of elections, Surjewala said, "There was no dissent at the meeting." He added that leaders like Ghulam Nabi Azad, Anand Sharma or P Chidambaram

were not dissenters but senior members of the Congress and were all unanimous in deciding to extend the election schedule a little. "There was no argument in the election schedule issue. The meeting was very fruitful. There is no dispute over conducting organisational election," Venugopal said. He said a little clarity was needed on whether the CWC election can be held before or after the Congress president's election. "We have to go to the constitution to look at that. The practice is to hold Congress president's election first and then the CWC election," he said. Sources within the CWC meet said Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot hit out at those demanding internal elections, saying the leaders should leave this to the party chief and focus on how to fight the Narendra Modi Government. Anand Sharma objected to the tone of his remarks, dubbing it "disrespectful", sources said. The virtual meeting chaired by party chief Sonia Gandhi started with her address. In her opening remarks, Sonia hit out at the Government over a host of issues. She said there were "many pressing issues of public concern" that needed to be

debated and discussed in the upcoming session of Parliament. On the ongoing farmers' agitation, she said the Government had shown "shocking insensitivity and arrogance going through the charade of consultations." "It is abundantly clear that the three laws were prepared in haste and Parliament was consciously denied an opportunity for examining in any meaningful details their implications and impacts. Our position has been very clear from the very beginning; we reject them categorically because they will destroy the foundations of food security that are based on the three pillars of MSP, public procurement and PDS," she said. After the address, Sonia asked AICC general secretary organisation KC Venugopal to read out the Organisational Election Schedule sent by chairperson of the Central Election Authority. The CEC chaired by Madhusudan Mistry has proposed that the AICC Session and the party president's election be held on May 29, with the process of nomination filing starting in the month of May itself. The party's top leadership also discussed the current political situation in the wake of the

farmers' agitation and the party's strategy ahead of the Budget Session of Parliament on various issues, including the leaked WhatsApp chats of journalist Arnab Goswami. Sonia took over as the interim Congress president in August 2019 after Rahul Gandhi resigned in the wake of the party's Lok Sabha debacle in May 2019. There have been demands from a section of the Congress leaders for having a full-time and active party president and an organisational overhaul.

The CWC had in its earlier meeting decided to hold organisational elections, following a storm in the party in August last year over a letter to Sonia Gandhi by a group of 23 leaders including Ghulam Nabi Azad, Anand Sharma, Bhupinder Hooda, Prithviraj Chavan, Kapil Sibal, Manish Tewari, Shashi Tharoor and Mukul Wasnik raising these issues. Sonia last month met some of these 'dissenters' and discussed the issues raised by them.

राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन मध्यप्रदेश
लिंक रोड नंबर 3, माधवराव सग्रे मार्ग, भोपाल-462003
क्रमांक/ए.एच.एम.एच.आर.सेल-1/2021/455 भोपाल दिनांक: 15.01.2021
संशोधित सूचना-पत्र
राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन, म.प्र. के अन्तर्गत पत्र क्रमांक रा.स्वा.मि./मासंस./2020/16446 दिनांक 17.12.2020 द्वारा एवं विज्ञापित क्रमांक जी-16759/44891/2020 द्वारा सविदा लेबोरेटरी टेक्नोलॉजीयन के रिक्त पदों की पूर्ति हेतु सेम्स लिमिटेड के माध्यम से ऑनलाईन आवेदन पत्र प्रस्तुत करने की अंतिम तिथि 15.01.2021 निर्धारित की गई थी। उपरोक्त सूचना पत्र के माध्यम से सविदा लेबोरेटरी टेक्नोलॉजीयन के सेम्स लिमिटेड के माध्यम से ऑनलाईन आवेदन पत्र प्रस्तुत करने की अंतिम तिथि 15.01.2021 को दिनांक 25.01.2021 (10 दिवस) तक बढ़ाई जाती है। शेष शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी।
(मिशन संचालक, ए.एच.एम.एच. म.प्र. द्वारा अनुमोदित)
सुस्थ प्रशासकीय अधिकारी
राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन मध्यप्रदेश
जब तक कोरोना की दवाई नहीं, तब तक हिलाई नहीं।
G-17919/21

Finish construction works in industrial areas on time: CM

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday directed the officials of Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (DSIIDC) to conclude all the developmental works in industrial areas including the first-of-its-kind business park in a time-bound manner.



The direction came in a meeting convened by the Chief Minister with the officials of DSIIDC to review the development work on the new Rani Khera Technology Park, a new IT business park to be constructed in Delhi. The DSIIDC officials gave a presentation to the chief minister on the construction work, which will commence from May 2021

onwards. "The entire construction of the project should be completed within the stipulated timeline. It should be done in a time-bound manner," he said. Kejriwal also reviewed the status of the on-going maintenance works in the industrial areas of DSIIDC. The new deadlines of the on-going maintenance works have been

set up by the departments due to the outbreak of COVID-19. Kejriwal directed the officials to complete the pending and on-going redevelopment and maintenance works in DSIIDC industrial areas as per revised deadlines. Kejriwal also reviewed the status of the on-going maintenance works in the industrial areas of DSIIDC. Delhi

Minister of Industries Satyendar Jain and other senior officials were also present in the meeting. In the meeting chaired by Kejriwal, the officials of the DSIIDC presented the detailed plan for the construction of the business park. The Delhi government will develop this first-of-its-kind business park in seven different phases. The

first phase of the Rani Khera Business Park development project is expected to be completed by May 2023 and the second phase of the project is expected to be completed by May 2025. The chief minister was also apprised that all necessary approvals of the concerned government departments have been duly completed.

50 to serve as 'eyes, ears' of police at Sarojini Nagar mkt ahead of R-Day

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police on Friday inducted 50 volunteers who will be its eyes and ears at the busy Sarojini Nagar market area to tackle terror threats ahead of Republic Day celebration in the National Capital. According to Ingit Pratap Singh, the Deputy Commissioner of Police

(DCP), Southwest district, the volunteers in the police service programme are mostly shopkeepers and workers at the Sarojini Nagar market and will keep an eye on any suspicious activity. "In the eventuality of a terror attack, the group would help other shopkeepers in evacuating the market place. The volunteers know the corners of the

market well and are familiar with the entry and exit points. They are also responsible for looking after the security during festivals, said the DCP. "The volunteers would be provided a jacket and a badge which would make it easy for the police to identify them during an emergency situation," said the DCP. Sarojini Nagar is one of the most vulnerable places. There was a bomb blast there in 2005. The volunteers will patrol the market during peak hours with staff of Sarojini Nagar police station and will help in preventing pick-pocketing, bag lifting and petty thefts in the market.

"They will keep a watch over the suspicious activities and will enhance a sense of security amongst the customers visiting the Sarojini Nagar Market. The antecedents of the volunteers were checked thoroughly before they were allowed to join the team," the DCP added.

City reports 266 fresh Covid cases

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

At least 266 fresh cases of Covid-19 reported in the national capital on Friday while the daily positivity rate stayed at 0.37 per cent.

According to the health bulletin issued by the Delhi Government, the total number of people infected with life-threatening COVID-19 has reached 633542. With this, the death toll rose to 10789 with seven new fatalities reported on Friday.

The number of cases and the single-day fatality count now indicate a marked improvement in the situation since the third wave of the pandemic had hit the city in November.

The highest single-day spike 8,593 cases till date was reported on November 11. The situation in Delhi has improved in the last several days, with a low number of cases and reduction in death count,



Besides fall in active cases, the count of home isolation cases have also registered a sustained fall, dropping to below 825-mark, indicating improvement in the COVID-19 situation, as per the bulletin.

These 266 new cases came out of the 71850 tests conducted the previous day, including 43105 RT-PCR tests and 28745 rapid antigen tests. According to the Tuesday bulletin issued by the Delhi health department, out of the total number of 9068 beds in COVID hospitals, 8125 are vacant.

It said that 125 beds in COVID care centres are occupied by persons under quarantine, including travellers who have returned by the Vande Bharat Mission and bubble flights.

Two property dealers held for duping people

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Delhi Police has arrested two men who convinced people to invest money in their upcoming project in Bahadurgarh, Haryana but failed to allot the land to the victims.

The accused persons identified as Vijender Singh (52) and his associate Dalip Kumar (46), were arrested by the Economic Offences Wing of the Delhi Police on Thursday. Police said that Singh, a retired Indian Air Force employee started working as a property dealer along with Kumar who was already in the real estate business.

According to Dr O P Mishra, the Joint Commissioner of Police, EOW, in 2015, the accused invited people to invest in an upcoming project Ganga City Colony through their firm Ganga Associates based in Dwarka.

The complainants alleged that the directors of Ganga Associates offered to sell plots in their upcoming project at Gubhana Kheri and assured them that all necessary approvals had been obtained from the authorities. Believing them, 24 people paid approximately ₹50 lakhs to the accused

"After taking the amount from victims, neither did they hand over the possession of booked plots nor return the amount to the victims. The other directors in the company -- Ajay Kumar and Hemraj -- have already been arrested earlier in the case," said the Joint CP.

"The complainants alleged that the directors of Ganga Associates offered to sell plots

in their upcoming project at Gubhana Kheri and assured them that all necessary approvals had been obtained from the authorities. Believing them, 24 people paid approximately Rs 50 lakhs to the accused," said the Joint CP. "Later, it emerged that the accused had not obtained the approvals for the project. A case was registered against the directors of the company in 2018 and investigation was taken up by the EOW," he said.

"Investigations revealed that Singh and Kumar in connivance with other directors lured people to invest money in their project, assuring allotment of plot but they failed to do so. It was also revealed that they did not have any land for the project at Gubhana Kheri. They had no permission from the District Town Planner to develop the project and had concealed the fact that the land in question was cultivable land," said the Joint CP.

Cheating case against Gurdwara Committee president Sirsa

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Following the directions from a court, the Delhi Police has registered a cheating case against Shiromani Akali Dal leader and Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee (DSGMC) president Manjinder Singh Sirsa.

In November last year, a Delhi court had directed the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Delhi Police to register an First Information Report (FIR) against Sirsa for alleged misappropriation of funds during his tenure as the secretary general of the DSGMC.

According to a senior police official, the case against Sirsa and others was registered on Thursday for cheating and embezzlement of gurdwara funds by making huge unjustified payments, totalling around Rs 1 crore, for the purchase of tents, blankets and tarpaulin from sham companies.

"It was registered on the basis of a complaint by one Bhopinder Singh, who is one of the stakeholders in the funds received by the DSGMC," said the senior police official.

4 criminals who looted ₹10 L at gunpoint in G'gram held

STAFF REPORTER ■ GURUGRAM

A crime unit of the Gurugram Police have arrested four inter-State wanted criminals who had looted Rs 10 lakh at gunpoint from a company employee in Gurugram on January 11, the police said on Friday.

The arrested accused were involved in three cases of loot and dacoity which they had committed in Gurugram and Delhi. The police have also recovered 2 motorcycles which were used in the crime.

The culprits were identified as Shrawan alias Sikender (34) of Hisar, Sandeep (28), Suresh alias Bittu (38) and Surender alias Sonu (35) all residents of Jhajjar.

The accused were arrested by the crime branch unit Sector-17 led by Inspector Narender Chauhan from Sector-14 on Thursday after a tip-off.

"During interrogation the accused revealed that they used to stand out-

The police have also recovered 2 motorcycles which were used in the crime

side the bank and keep vigil on people who came outside alone with bag later they followed them on their bike and robbed them on gun point. As of now the accused have robbed Rs 28 lakh in three instances," said Preet Pal Sangwan, ACP (crime).

On January 11, Deepak Pandey, who was working with a private firm located in Udyog Vihar Phase- 1 was robbed at Atul Kataria chowk by the three arrested criminals on gun point.

Pandey had withdrawn Rs 10 lakh from a private bank located in sector-14 and was going to his company on his scooter when the incident took place.

An FIR under relevant sections of the IPC had been lodged against three unidentified robbers at the Palam Vihar police station.



Sikkim tableau artistes during the tableaux press preview as part of the Republic Day rehearsals at Ravindra Rangshala in New Delhi on Friday. Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

Woman dies under mysterious circumstances, family says she died after Covaxin vaccination

STAFF REPORTER ■ GURUGRAM

A 55-year-old woman Rajwanti, who was working in a primary health care (PHC) centre at Bhangrola village died under mysterious circumstances on Friday morning.

The family of the deceased have filed a police complaint at the New Colony police station in which they alleged that she died due to Covaxin dose which she had administered on January 16 at the PHC center at Bhangrola village in Gurugram.

However, the postmortem of the woman conducted on Friday which report is awaited.

The woman's husband Lal Singh a resident of Krishna Colony stated in his complaint that his wife slept on Thursday evening after dinner but on Friday morning she didn't get up till 7 am for her work.

"When she didn't get up on Friday morning, I immediately took her to a private hospital where the doctor declared her dead. My wife was administered with Covaxin on January 16 at the PHC center and was dead due to the vaccine dose," Singh said in his

complaint. Meanwhile, the health department claimed that the actual cause of death would be cleared after a viscera report of the deceased will come.

"The preliminary symptoms suggest that the woman passed away due to cardiac arrest. For further confirmation we have sent her viscera report which is awaited. We have also informed the central ministry about the matter. Whether she died due to Covaxin or some other reasons, it will be cleared after we receive her report," said Virender Yadav, chief medical officer (CMO) Gurugram.

Samples of dead cranes in Delhi zoo test -ve for bird flu

NEW DELHI: All 12 samples of dead cranes in the Delhi zoo have tested negative for bird flu, authorities said on Friday, a week after the first case of avian influenza was detected in its premises.

"Four cranes were found dead in the Delhi zoo a few days ago. Twelve samples were collected on Monday and sent to National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases (NIHSD) of Indian Council of Agricultural Research for testing, Bhopal," Dr. Rakesh Singh, the director of the animal husbandry unit of the Delhi government, said. All the 12 samples have tested negative, he said.

Last week, samples from a dead owl in the Delhi zoo had tested positive for avian influenza.

Zoo Director Ramesh Pandey said they were following all protocols and monitoring the situation strictly.

"We have been using the ebird mobile application to keep track of the birds in the premises of the zoo," he said.

This is the first time the application is being used for bird monitoring and record keeping during the outbreak of avian influenza.

The application allows the user to enter sightings from anywhere in the world, even in areas with no cell service, or



Internet access.

Singh said that 1,338 bird deaths have been reported in Delhi between January 6 and January 21 amid the bird flu situation.

Of the 207 samples collected from various places in the national capital, 24 have tested positive for avian influenza so far, he said.

On Tuesday, authorities restricted the entry of public into the Red Fort till Friday after a sample of a dead crow tested positive for bird flu.

Around 15 crows were found dead in the premises of the Red Fort on January 10.

Last week, municipal corporations in the city had imposed a temporary ban on

sale and storage of poultry or processed chicken meat after samples taken from crows and ducks at parks and lakes in the national capital tested positive for bird flu.

Around 400 ducks were culled at Sanjay Lake on January 11.

The Delhi government had also banned the sale of processed and packaged chicken brought from outside the city and ordered the closure of the Ghazipur poultry market in east Delhi for 10 days.

However, the ban was lifted on Thursday after all the 100 samples taken from Ghazipur, Asia's largest poultry market, tested negative.

IRCTC to resume e-catering service from February

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) will soon resume its e-catering services in phase-wise manner for the passengers travelling in the currently operating special trains.

The e-catering services were suspended due to onset of ongoing COVID-19 pandemic declared by the 'World Health Organisation' and consequent unprecedented lockdown. E-Catering Services was suspended on 22nd March, 2020. However, with the gradual resumption of passenger train services and amidst the new normal wherein IRCTC is serving only 'Ready To Eat' meals to passengers on trains,

there has been an increased demand for resumption of E-catering services.

Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) had started this unique service in the year 2014 whereby passengers could order an array of food of their choice from reputed brands as well as popular regional and local delicacies on phone or online while traveling on trains and get the same delivered to their seats at railway stations. During the pre-COVID period, IRCTC had started clocking 20000 e-catering orders per day.

The Indian Railways has achieved a number of milestones regarding fulfilling the vision of the Prime Minister

including the launch of the new user interface of the internet ticketing website www.irctc.co.in and addition of new real time feature in IRCTC's own payment gateway i-Pay during booking of tickets.

The initiatives were introduced on the lines of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' and 'Digital India' under the leadership of Minister of Railways Piyush Goyal.



The company is starting the first phase of E-catering services from February, 2021 wherein the service shall commence over thirty numbers of Railway Stations catering to approximately 250 trains.

Railway finalises tender for train sets

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Indian Railways has finalised the tender for design, development, manufacture, supply, integration, testing and commissioning of 'Insulated-gate Bipolar Transistor' (IGBT) based 3-phase propulsion, control and other equipment for train sets for 44 rakes of 16 car each on January 21.

The procurement includes a five years comprehensive annual maintenance contract with the supplier. "The specifications were prepared after multiple deliberations with industry at various levels from manufacturing the train sets indigenously.

For the first time, the tender required a minimum 75 per cent local content requirement of the total value of the tender. This is expected to give a boost to "Atma Nirbhar Bharat" mission," the railways said in a statement.

Three bidders participated in this tender and the lowest offer was from indigenous manufacturer M/s Medha Servo Drives Ltd. who successfully met the minimum local content of 75 per cent of the total value, it said, adding that the tender

was finalised on Medha Servo Drives Ltd. for all in cost of Rs 221,64,59,644 (Two thousand two hundred eleven crores, sixty four lakh, fifty nine thousand and six hundred forty four Rupees) for 44 rakes of 16 car each.

The delivery schedule for supply of these rakes is - first two prototype rakes will be delivered in 20 months, thereafter on successful commissioning, the firm will be delivering an average of six rakes per quarter, it added.

Over 12L get shots so far; 2.28L on Fri



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Over 2.28 lakh healthcare workers and frontline workers received the Covid-19 vaccine shots across the States on Friday, the seventh day of the mega immunisation exercise that was launched on January 16 in the country. It took the total tally of people who have been given the vaccine to 12,72,097.

"The Covid-19 vaccination programme was conducted successfully on the seventh day of the countrywide massive exercise. The cumulative number of healthcare workers vaccinated has surpassed 12.7 lakh (12,72,097) (till 6 p.m. today) through 24,397 sessions, as per the provisional report," the Union Health Ministry said in a statement.

A total of 267 cases of Adverse Effect After Vaccination (AEFI) have been reported till 6 pm on the sev-

enth day of the vaccination drive.

On Friday, 2,28,563 beneficiaries were vaccinated till 6 p.m. through 6,230 sessions. On Thursday, 1,92,581 people were vaccinated and 1,12,007 a day before.

In Karnataka, 1,82,503 have been vaccinated so far, highest amongst all states, followed by 1,27,726 in Andhra Pradesh, 1,21,004 in Odisha and 1,02,724 in Telangana, according to the data available from the Government.

On the testing front too, India continues to register growing numbers. The cumulative testing has crossed 19 Crore, said a statement from the Union Health Ministry with 8,00,242 samples tested in the last 24 hours itself.

The Ministry also said that steadily following the trend set over the past weeks, India's active caseload has

13K receive second dose of Covaxin in Phase 3 trials

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Bharat Biotech has successfully administered the second dose of its COVID-19 vaccine Covaxin to 13,000 volunteers as part of its ongoing phase-3 clinical trials of the jab, Suchitra Ella joint managing director of Bharat Biotech said on Friday.

She said in a tweet, "13,000 volunteers have been successfully administered the 2nd dose in the phase-3 clinical trials of Covaxin. My heartfelt thanks to all of them for their pro-vaccine public health voluntarism."

The city-based vaccine maker has successfully completed enrollment of 25,800 volunteers for the Phase-3 trials of Covaxin, Ella had earlier said.

The DCGI has granted permission for the sale or distribution of Covaxin for restricted use in emergency situations in public interest as an abundant precaution, in clinical trial mode.

The vaccine-maker in the fact sheet on Covaxin, posted in its website, had said the clinical efficacy of the vaccine is yet to be established and is being studied in

Phase 3 clinical trial and hence it is important to appreciate that receiving the vaccine does not mean other precautions related to COVID-19 need not be followed.

Covaxin is India's totally indigenous COVID-19 vaccine developed in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research and National Institute of Virology.

The inactivated vaccine is developed and manufactured in Bharat Biotech's BSL-3 (Bio-Safety Level 3) bio-containment facility, one of its kind in the world.

fallen to 1.78% of the total active cases. India's active caseload presently stands at 1,88,688.

18,002 new recoveries were registered during the past 24 hours. This has led to a net decline of 3,620 cases from the total Active Caseload in the last 24 hours.

The total recovered cases are 10,283,708 as on Thursday pushing the growing gap between the recovered and the active cases to 1,00,95,020 (

54.5 times). The Recovery Rate has improved to 96.78%.

Around 85 per cent of the new recovered cases are contributed by ten States/UTs with Kerala reporting 6,229 persons recovering from the infection. Maharashtra and Karnataka reported 3,980 and 815 new recoveries, respectively.

At least 14,545 new positive cases were registered in the last 24 hours. Eight States/UTs have contributed 84.14 per

cent of the new cases. Kerala reported 6,334 cases in the last 24 hours. Maharashtra recorded 2,886 new cases while Karnataka registered 674 daily cases on Wednesday.

As many as 82.82 per cent of the 163 case fatalities that have been reported in the past 24 hours are from Nine States/UTs with Maharashtra reported the maximum new daily deaths at 52. Kerala also saw a fatality count of 21, as per the statement.

Centre not in favour of giving extra chance to UPSC aspirants, SC told



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

New Delhi: The Centre on Friday told the Supreme Court that it was not in favour of granting one extra opportunity to those civil services aspirants who could not appear in their last attempt in the exams conducted by the UPSC last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A bench headed by Justice A M Khanwilkar took note of the submissions of Additional Solicitor General S V Raju, appearing on behalf of the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT).

"We are not ready to give one more chance. Give me the time to file an affidavit... last night I received instruction that we are not agreeable," Raju told the bench, which also comprised justices B R Gavai and Krishna Murari.

The bench has now posted the plea of a civil services aspirant Rachna Singh for hearing on January 25 and

asked the Centre to file an affidavit during the period and serve it to the parties.

Earlier, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta had told

the bench that the government was considering the issue of granting one more opportunity to those civil services aspirants who could not appear in their last attempt to crack the UPSC exam.

The top court, on September 30 last year, had refused to postpone the UPSC civil services preliminary exam, which was held on October 4, because of COVID-19 pandemic and floods in several parts of the country.

However, it had directed the Central Government and the Union Public Service Commission to consider granting an extra chance to candidates who otherwise have their last attempt in 2020, with corresponding extension of the upper age-limit. The bench was then told that a formal decision can be taken by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) only.

PTI

EX-CJI Gogoi gets Z+ VIP security cover



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre has accorded the top category 'Z+' VIP security cover to former Chief Justice of India (CJI) Ranjan Gogoi, official sources said on Friday.

They said Gogoi, 66, will be protected by armed commandos of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) during his travel all across the country.

A Rajya Sabha member now, Gogoi was earlier being provided with a security cover of Delhi Police.

He retired in November, 2019 and was later nominated to the upper house of Parliament by the Government.

The CRPF has a VIP security unit and Gogoi is its 63rd protectee, sources said.

ED attaches ex-chief engineer's ₹5.45 cr assets

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday attached assets worth ₹5.45 crore of Ramanand Divya, former Chief Engineer, Water Resources Department, Chhattisgarh and his family members under money laundering charges.

The attached assets are in the form of agriculture land and plots in Raipur, Bilaspur, Korba and Janjgir-Champa districts and bank balances to the tune of ₹55.95 lakhs held by the accused Ramanand Divya and his family members.

The ED had initiated investigation under Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) on the basis of FIR registered by ACB, Chhattisgarh under relevant section of Prevention of Corruption Act which disclosed the disproportionate assets to the tune of ₹5.45 crore amassed by Divya and his family members.

"Investigation under PMLA revealed that most of the immovable properties were purchased in the name of Priyadarshini Divya wife of Ramanand Divya, few being in the name of accused Ramanand Divya himself as well. The properties were acquired through various ways of money laundering. In few cases, property was purchased directly in cash or through cash deposits in bank accounts of self as well as other relatives," the ED said in a statement.

In some cases, routing of funds was done through accounts of relatives and persons with meagre sources of income in the form of gift or unsecured loan. For purchasing some properties, fake sale agreements of other properties showing receipt in cash were also prepared, to project the source of cash as untainted, it said.

Also, there were frequent sale and purchase of properties to project the source of money for purchase as genuine whereas the very source of initial purchase was unexplained and tainted money, it further said.

Investigation further revealed that ₹2.13 crore was paid in cash for purchase of properties.

Students should work towards making India self-reliant, exhorts PM

Modi addresses 18th convocation of Tezpur varsity

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said the country's students should work towards building a self-reliant India. He said that by the time India celebrates its 100th Independence day, the nation would also be celebrating the efforts of the students who would be graduating now.

"The graduations of future will be entirely virtual and students from any part of the world would be able to study anywhere at anytime," Modi addressing students and faculty at the 18th convocation of Tezpur University in Assam.

"We need to have a regulatory framework for such transformation and we are continuously trying to achieve that goal with the New Education Policy. The NEP 2020 aims at a flexible and interdisciplinary education system," he said. The NEP focuses on data and analytics. It has the power to improve the admission, teaching, and evaluation system," he added in the virtual address.

Referring to the incubation centre of the university and innovative technologies emerging out of it, Modi told students that they have great opportunities ahead of them. "Your efforts tell that you have potential," said the Prime Minister. He also applauded the efforts of varsity in the



documentation of tribal languages and culture, waste energy among others.

"During the freedom struggle, many brave hearts from Assam have given their lives now you have to live for the AtmaNirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India)," Modi told graduating students asking them to spread the tej (light) of Tezpur University across the nation and the world.

In this pandemic circumstances, the AtmaNirbhar Bharat programme has become a nomenclature in our dictionary but we need to understand what is this change brought by the initiative, said Modi. The biggest change is of perspective - the attitude of the entire nation has changed, said Modi.

Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, and Tezpur Lok Sabha MP Pallab Lochan Das also attended the convocation.

Citing the Indian cricket team's recent win against Australia, the Prime Minister said the youth needs to take inspiration from them. "The young team was inexperienced and injured, but that didn't deter their determination and beat one of the best teams in the world," he mentioned. A total of 1,218 students received their degrees and diplomas in the convocation.

Bird flu in 12 States: Centre

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The outbreak of avian influenza, also known as bird flu, has been confirmed in poultry birds in as many as nine States across the country, and in crows, migratory/wild birds in a dozen-odd 12 states, the Union Ministry of Animal Husbandry informed on Friday.

In Rajasthan, bird flu has been confirmed in 17 districts of Rajasthan.

As many as 6,290 birds have been found dead in the state between December 25, 2020, and January 22, 2021, the state Animal Husbandry Department informed.

In Punjab, 11,200 birds



were culled at the Alfa Poultry Farm in village Bhera in Derabassi, Aashika Jain Additional Deputy Commissioner told a news agency.

About a hundred men were engaged in the operation who

worked for around eight hours to conduct the exercise.

The team began the job with sedation of birds, followed by culling via cervical dislocation. Thereafter the birds were buried in deep pits and covered with lime.

Sonu Sood moves SC against HC order on illegal construction

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Actor Sonu Sood moved the Supreme Court Friday challenging the Bombay High Court order which dismissed his appeal against a BMC notice over alleged illegal construction at his residential building in Mumbai's Juhu area.

Advocate Vineet Dhandha, who has filed the plea in the top court, told PTI that Sood has challenged the high court order.

As per the BMC, the Bollywood actor had carried out structural changes in the six-storey residential building "Shakti Sagar", and converted

it into a hotel without taking requisite permissions.

The BMC earlier this month also filed a complaint at the Juhu police station, seeking an FIR to be lodged against Sood for allegedly converting the residential building into a hotel without permission.

The complaint letter was sent to the police after the BMC inspected the building and found that Sood had allegedly not complied with the requisitions and was continuing unauthorised construction even after the notice was served to him in October last year.

The police is yet to register FIR in the case.

SC refuses early hearing to Vedanta's Sterlite copper unit plea

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday refused to accord early hearing to the plea related to mining major Vedanta's Sterlite copper unit at Tuticorin in Tamil Nadu which is closed since May 2018 over pollution concerns.

The top court, on December 2, last year had rejected the interim plea of Vedanta Ltd that it be permitted to inspect its Sterlite copper plant and to operate it for a month to assess the pollution level.

Vedanta had sought handing over of the plant for three months saying it requires two months to start the unit and the company should be allowed to run it for four weeks to ascertain whether its polluting or not.

जल संसाधन विभाग
कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
बाढ़ नियंत्रण प्रमंडल, सालमारी
अल्पकालीन पुनर्विवादा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या -09 SBD/2020-21
(राष्ट्रीय/राजकीय स्पर्धा)
(केवल ई-टेंडर पद्धति के अनुसार वेबसाइट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)

क्र. सं.	कार्य का विवरण -	प्रारंभिक राशि (लाख ₹ में)	अंशजित राशि (लाख ₹ में) (ऑन लाइन अथवा फिजिकल/मैन्युअल मोड में भुगतान)	परिमाण - विवरण का मूल्य (अप्रारंभिक) (केवल ऑन लाइन मोड में भुगतान) ₹ में	बेडिंग को देय बिड प्रोसेसिंग फी (अप्रारंभिक) (केवल ऑन लाइन मोड में भुगतान) ₹ में	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
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2 निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना निर्गत करने की तिथि : दिनांक -21.01.2021
3 निविदा कागजात लाइनलॉड एवं अपलोड करने की अवधि : दिनांक-29.01.2021 से दिनांक-01.02.2021 के 3.00 बजे अपरहान तक (सिर्फ वेबसाइट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)
4 प्री-बिड मीटिंग का समय, स्थान एवं तिथि : दिनांक-27.01.2021 3.00 बजे अपरहान में, मुख्य अभियंता, बाढ़ नियंत्रण एवं जल निस्सर्जन, जल संसाधन विभाग, करिहास।
5 तकनीकी बिड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक-03.02.2021 समय 3.30 बजे अपरहान। (सिर्फ वेबसाइट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)
6 वित्तीय बिड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय : सक्षम पदाधिकारी द्वारा बाढ़ में घोषित की जायेगी (सिर्फ वेबसाइट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)
7 निविदा खोलने का स्थान : www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर
8 निविदा की वेबसाइट : 420 दिन
9 निविदा पदनामा का पदनाम एवं पता : कार्यपालक अभियंता, बाढ़ नियंत्रण प्रमंडल, सालमारी
10 विशेष जानकारी प्राप्त करने हेतु वेबसाइट पर देखा जा सकता है। : www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in एवं state.bihar.gov.in/prd/bihar
कार्यपालक अभियंता
बाढ़ नियंत्रण प्रमंडल, सालमारी
मो:-7463889255
PR-011568 (WRD) 2020-21
किसी भी तरह आपदा की जानकारी अथवा सूझाव हेतु आपदा प्रबंधन के हेल्पलाइन नं. 1070 पर सम्यक किया जा सकता है।

Vaccine for Kala Azar tested at BHU

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Raising hopes, scientists of the School of Biochemical Engineering of IIT-BHU in collaboration with the Institute of Medical Sciences, BHU have tested a vaccine that halts the progress of the Kala Azar, a neglected tropical disease caused by Leishmania parasite.

Currently there is no vaccine yet available in the market for humans against this disease and the treatment depends on drugs with limitations which is a serious concern towards its complete elimination.

In India which has postponed Kala Azar disease elimination goal thrice with 2025 new deadline, 54 districts in Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal are still affected by the disease with sporadic cases in other states like Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Sikkim, and Uttarakhand.

The scientists including Prof Vikash Kumar Dubey of the School of Biochemical Engineering and Prof Shyam Sundar of the department of medicine, IMS, investigated and tested the new recombinant



vaccine on the mice infected with the disease.

Dr Sunita Yadav, a National Postdoctoral Fellow and Prof Dubey who are investigator in the study said that the prophylactic potential of this vaccine was evaluated in preclinical studies in mice model that showed a significant reduction in parasite load in liver and spleen organs of vaccinated infected mice than infected control mice. The research has been recently reported in the prestigious journal "Cellular Immunology".

"Clearance of the parasite burden in vaccinated challenged mice is correlated with immune response expected in a vaccine candidate," said Professor Vikash Kumar Dubey. It is a type of defence mechanism that happens in our body after vaccination and helpful for prevention of disease progression.

He said this study provides insight towards the evaluation of vaccine molecules against Leishmania infection. In future, it might be utilised as a vaccine candidate against the pathogen. However, more study is needed to better understand its mode of action. The team next plans to further evaluate its potential in other clinical trials.

As of November 2020, 12 blocks in Jharkhand and 4 blocks in Bihar reported more than 1 case of Kala Azar per 10,000 population. Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have also managed to significantly achieve their elimination target.

Kala Azar is the 2nd largest parasitic killer in the world after Malaria and results in a 95 percent fatality rate if the patients are not treated. Additionally, up to 20 per cent of the patients who are correctly treated and cured, develop a skin condition called Post-Kala-Azar Dermal Leishmaniasis (PKDL) which surfaces within months to years after treatment. These patients can contain large amounts of parasites in their skin lesions, making them an important source of trans-

Statue of Govind Ballabh Pant inside Parliament premises relocated

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The 9-foot statue of Govind Ballabh Pant inside Parliament premises has been temporarily relocated and the statue of Motilal Nehru will be moved in the next two-three days to make way for the construction of the new building. Meanwhile, the Central Public Works Department has put the central vista redevelopment design in public domain and has sought views and objections till January 31.

Earlier this week, the Central Public Works Department had shifted the 16-feet bronze statue of Mahatma Gandhi to a spot between Gate 2 and 3 of the Parliament. The construction work of the new Parliament building started on January 15 after the Heritage Conservation Committee gave its approval to the ambitious project under the Central Vista redevelopment plan.

"The statue of Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant has been temporarily relocated by the CPWD. The statue of Motilal Nehru, which is also coming in the way of construction of the new building, will also be moved in the next two-three days," official sources said. They said the statues being moved temporarily will be shifted to a prominent location once the construction completes. There is also a statue of B R Ambedkar which will be moved temporarily, they said.

The new parliament building will have a triangular shape and is expected to be completed by the 75th anniversary



THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO HOLD THE MONSOON SESSION OF PARLIAMENT IN 2022 IN THE NEW BUILDING

of India's independence in 2022. The Government plans to hold the monsoon session of Parliament in 2022 in the new building. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had laid the foundation stone for the new building, being constructed by Tata Projects Ltd, on December 10 last year. The project is estimated to cost Rs 971 crore.

Besides the new Parliament building, the redevelopment of the Central Vista - the nation's power corridor - envisages a common central secretariat, revamping of the 3-km Rajpath from Rashtrapati Bhavan to India Gate, new prime minister's residence and prime minister's office, and a new Vice-President Enclave.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

This is notified for the information of Rail Passengers that Railways have decided to extend the stoppage of following Special trains at Gahmar Railway Station under Danapur Division as per details given below:-

Train No. & Name	Station	Extended Date (from-Upto)
02391 Rajgir-New Delhi Shramjeevi Express	At Gahmar Station	01.02.2021 to 31.03.2021
02392 New Delhi-Rajgir Shramjeevi Express		

Note: There will be no change in Timings & Fare structure. This stoppage will be provided on an experimental basis. Further continuation of stoppages in regular services will depend on the basis of review of average per day Ticket sale and earning of this special train.

All norms of the State and Central Government regarding COVID-19 including Social distancing, sanitization etc., may be followed in the trains and at the Railway stations. All other precautions associated with COVID-19 should also be ensured.

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SII PEGS FIRE LOSS AT ₹1,000 CR

◆ Maha CM Thackeray visits premises
◆ SII's CEO says no damage caused to vaccine

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI
A day after a massive fire claimed five lives and gutted its equipment and products at the proposed BCG and Rotavirus vaccine manufacturing facility, Serum Institute of India (SII) on Friday pegged the losses suffered by it at Rs 1,000 crore, even as Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray visited the fire ravaged SII premises.

worth Rs 1,000 crore were damaged in the fire... The loss is mainly financial. There is no loss to supplies as such," Poonawalla said.

Poonawalla said that at the place where the fire broke out, "no actual vaccine was actually being produced there, so there was no damage to any vaccine."

While the fire swept through the third and fourth floors of the upcoming facility in Manjari that was scheduled to become operational within a month, the Covishield Vaccine that is currently being manufactured at its other plant which is one km away.

The chief minister, accompanied by Tourism Minister Aditya Thackeray, Deputy Chairperson of Maharashtra Legislative Council Neelam Gorhe, Pune MP Girish Bapat,

visited the SII facility and met the company Chairman Cyrus Poonawalla and his son Adar. Declining to comment on the progress of investigations into the circumstances leading to Thursday's fire, Uddhav said: "We have ordered a thorough probe. There cannot be any conclusions till the full investigations are complete and the report is available. It is then we will know whether it was an accident or sabotage" the chief minister said.

The chief minister said that Poonawallas had repeatedly assured him that there would be no impact on the Covishield Vaccine production, stocks and rollout which would continue unhindered.

After the chief minister's visit to the mishap-hit SII facility, Adar Poonawalla tweeted: "Thank you Shri Uddhav Ji @CMOMaharashtra and @AThackeray for visiting @SerumInstIndiaand extending your help and support during this terrible crisis. As you

have seen, the production of #COVISHIELD is on schedule and remains unaffected by this tragedy.

Meanwhile, the SII has announced a compensation of Rs 25 lakh to the next of kin of each of the five labourers, including 3 migrants, killed in the blaze.

On his part, the chief minister said that if any more assistance was needed to be extended to the bereaved families, the state government would consider it.

In a related development, Pune's Hadapsar Police have registered an accidental death, the Pune Municipal Corporation, Pune Metropolitan Region Development Authority and Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation have launched simultaneous investigations into the fire.

It may be recalled that five persons were killed and others evacuated safely after a massive fire broke out in an under-con-

struction building at the Covid-19 vaccine manufacturer Serum Institute of India (SII) in Pune on Thursday afternoon.

The fire, which broke out at around 2.30 pm, swept through the fourth and fifth floors of an under-construction building at Manjari, which is one kilometer away from the SII facility where Covid vaccines are being manufactured. Manjari is a complex in Special Economic Zone where SII's half a dozen buildings are being constructed. The fire was brought under control within three hours.

The five deceased labourers were identified as Rama Shankar Harijan and Bipin Saroj, both from Uttar Pradesh, Sushil Kumar Pandey, who hails from Bihar and Mahendra Ingle and Pratik Pashte, both residents of Pune. All of them were contractual labourers. They were carrying out some electrical work at the site, when the mishap occurred.

KARNATAKA EXPLOSION

Quarry owner, 2 others arrested; CM announces ₹5 lakh solatium

Bengaluru: Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa on Friday said five people were killed in the powerful explosion of a truckload of gelatin sticks at a stone crushing unit in Shivamogga district and assured action against unlawful mining and those responsible for the mishap.

Conceding illegal mining in Shivamogga, his native district, Yediyurappa said the quarry owner and two of his associates have been arrested for the explosion that occurred on Thursday night and he would inspect the blast site on Saturday. While police last night said at least six labourers in the truck were killed in the explosion that left the bodies dismembered beyond recognition, Yediyurappa told reporters that five people were dead.

Announcing an ex-gratia of Rs five lakh each to the fam-

ilies of the victims, he said a probe into the explosion was on and a team of officials, including those from bomb disposal, mines and geology departments, were on the job. A clear picture on the casualty was expected to emerge soon with the authorities not ruling out the possibility of the death toll increasing, citing reports that there may have been more people at the site when the mishap occurred.

In a tweet, the Chief Minister said: "My deepest condolences to the bereaved family members. I wish a speedy recovery to the injured"

He told reporters here that he would direct the deputy commissioner of Shivamogga district to release a solatium of Rs five lakh to the families of the victims. "Tomorrow I am going there. There are illegal mining activities going on. I will try to take steps to prevent

the repetition of such incidents in future," he said.

Yediyurappa assured appropriate action against those responsible for the explosion, the cause of which was under investigation. To a question on allegations of increase in illegal mining, he said such activities have been stopped at four to five places and stringent action would be initiated to end the menace altogether.

The chief minister said the newly inducted Mines and Geology Minister Murgesh Nirani would soon inspect the area. Yediyurappa's son and Shivamogga MP B Y Raghavendra has already visited the spot.

The booming sound of the blast initially made local people mistake it for an earthquake and it was heard in nearby areas in neighbouring Davangere, Chikkamagaluru and Uttara Kannada districts too. **PTI**

Another Bengal Minister quits, may join BJP

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Mid speculation that more politicians might join the BJP ranks during Home Minister Amit Shah's January 31 rally in Howrah, another Bengal Minister Rajib Banerjee on Friday put in his papers holding out some "emotional details" before the media moments after tendering his resignation to Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar.

An hour later, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee reportedly "removed" the Forest Minister from his position because there were some procedural lapses on his part in tendering his resignation. Sources at State Secretariat Nabanna said that he was being removed as he had tendered his resignation to the Governor instead of the Chief Minister who was his official appointee as the leader of the Cabinet.

While the Trinamool Congress leadership promptly responded to the latest resignation drama saying a bucket of water taken out of the ocean would not matter much, besides raising some feeble corruption charges against the "just former" Minister who was yet to quit the party, Rajib said he had made up his mind to resign more than two years ago after the Chief Minister removed him unceremoniously as the Irrigation Minister.

"Most regretfully I inform you that I have tendered my resignation from my office as Cabinet Minister being in charge of Forest Department," an emotional Rajib Banerjee said adding he had "never thought that such a situation will come someday... but I had taken a decision more than two years ago when the Chief Minister removed me from the Irrigation Department without any prior intimation... I had to know it from the television breaking news even as I was busy meeting my party men in North Bengal."

It was a hurtful situation as "the Chief Minister should at least have informed me before taking such decision... it should be the minimum courtesy... there is no problem in changing portfolios by the Chief Minister who is the master of the situation... but there is a way to do things... and why I still continued as the Forest Minister is because when I told her that I was quitting from all Government posts she persuaded me to continue and I could not disregard her requests at that point in time."

Rajib is still an MLA, a party member said that he would "continue to work for the people in future," dropping suggestions that he was in look out for some "platform."

He said, "I do not know which platform I will get and

from where I will work for the people but I will continue to work for them till I am alive." Moments after Bengal BJP president Dilip Ghosh offered him a platform saying "though he still continues to be a TMC leader we have not problem accepting him in our party should he decide to join us."

Rajib is the third Minister to resign from the Government in a month after Suvendu Adhikari and Laxmi Ratan Shukla.

Rajib had been critical of the Government and the party telling openly in the public how corrupt sidekicks of top leadership always got the plum positions and the dedicated ones were ignored. In a Facebook Live post he rued the falling economic condition of Bengal where the youth were forced to leave the State in lakhs in search of jobs.

Reacting to the Friday's development Bengal Minister and TMC general secretary Partho Chatterjee said "a bucket of water taken out of the ocean does not dry it up and the TMC is that ocean," while Trinamool MP Kalyan Banerjee made suggestive statements saying the Forest Minister was aggrieved because "he was removed from the Irrigation Department where he had the opportunity to work with a large number of contractors."

TMC remark on BSF unfortunate, says EC

Kolkata: The Election Commission of India on Friday asked the Bengal political parties to exercise restraint while choosing their words particularly for armed forces.

While it termed the allegations made by Trinamool Congress against the Border Security Forces without producing evidence as "unfortunate" and avoidable, it also called the BJP contentions that the names of 4-5 lakh Rohingyas had been illegally included in the electoral rolls as unsubstantiated.

Describing allegations made by a political party against the BSF as "unfortunate," Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora said that it was "one of the finest forces in the country," adding the political party concerned should come up with facts to support its allegations.

Earlier the Trinamool Congress alleged that the BSF was threatening people living (within 15 km) of the international border to make them cast their votes in favour of a particular political party.

On BJP's allegations that the names of 4-5 lakh Rohingyas had been incorporated in the electoral rolls he said such allegations were baseless adding the full bench of the EC which was currently traveling Bengal had asked the State Chief Secretary and Home Secretary to look into the issues of fake information in the social media raised by political parties.

Talking tough on the bureaucrats particularly the police top brass the CEC said that poll panel had "zero-tolerance" insofar as "money and muscle power and misuse of the government machinery" was concerned. He also said civic police volunteers will be deployed during the elections.

Sources said that the EC is mulling "transfer, suspensions and even charge-sheets" against officials acting with bias. "The Commission may blacklist officials and even suspend, transfer or charge-sheet them," sources said, adding, "like on earlier occasions any complaint, instead of being responded with show cause notices will be followed up with prompt removal." **PNS**

J&K Industrial land allotment policy 2021-30 approved

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ JAMMU

The Administrative Council (AC), which met here under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Friday approved the adoption of Jammu & Kashmir Industrial Land Allotment Policy, 2021-30 to evolve a highly structured industrial land bank for promoting equitable industrial growth in Jammu and Kashmir.

The new policy attempts to address various land-related issues impeding industrial development in J&K by laying down a framework to regulate zoning of industrial areas, project appraisal and evaluation, and the subsequent process flow.

According to the official spokesperson, "Under the policy, land will be allotted to the investors on lease for an initial period of 40 years, extendable to 99 years.

The allotted land will be liable to be cancelled in case of failure of the investor to take effective steps within the stipulated time of 2 years, failure of the industrial unit to come into production within 3 years, violation of provisions under the lease deed, and non-cooperation of an enterprise for a period of 5 years."

Further, the policy also provides renting out of 60% of the built-up area of a business enterprise for setting up an ancillary indus-

trial enterprise through a tripartite agreement.

The spokesperson said, "the policy aims at achieving inclusive growth through sustainable industrialization and employment generation, and includes provisions for evolving a fair and transparent mechanism for land allotment for industrial use."

"The new policy proposes zoning of industrial areas at block/ municipality level after taking into consideration various factors including the existing level of industrial development, location of the proposed zone, and level of urbanization. The Jammu and Kashmir Industrial Land Allotment Policy, 2021-30 will also cover land allotment for health institutions/medi-cities and educational institutions/edu-cities", official spokesperson added.

The policy provides for constitution of Divisional Level Project Appraisal and Evaluation Committees to scrutinize applications received for allotment of industrial land within 30 days; Apex Level Land Allotment Committee, High Level Land Allotment Committee and Divisional Level Land Allotment Committee to decide and allot industrial land to the applicant within 45 days in cases of projects worth Rs. 200 crore, Rs. 50-200 crore and up to Rs. 50 crore, respectively.

Highest quantity of paddy procured this year in Chhattisgarh

Raipur: Breaking the paddy procurement record of last 20 years, Chhattisgarh State has recorded highest quantity of paddy procurement this year. In the ongoing procurement season this year, nearly 84 lakh 44 thousand metric tons of paddy has been procured till January 21, which is 50 thousand metric tons more than the quantity of paddy procured last year. It is noteworthy that nearly 83.94 lakh metric tons of paddy was procured in the season of last year.

Under the leadership of Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel, the quantity of paddy procurement as well as the number of farmers and agriculture yield has consistently increased in last two years. As a result of State Government's

pro-farmer policy, Chhattisgarh is emerging as a model state for the country in the agriculture sector. Chhattisgarh Government's Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana has boosted the crop production in the state. In the current fiscal year, State Government has distributed the incentive amount of Rs 5750 crore to 19 lakh farmers of the state under Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana. Till date, 19 lakh 54 thousand 332 farmers have sold paddy at support price till date.

DO of 27 lakh 70 thousand 693 metric tons of paddy has been issued to the millers for custom milling, against which nearly 25 lakh 45 thousand 512 metric tons of paddy has been transported already.

PMC bank scam: ED raids 5 Viva group, associates' premises, seizes ₹73L cash

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

As part of its ongoing investigations into the Punjab & Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank Ltd. scam, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday raided five premises belonging to the Viva Group and its associates in Mumbai and Palghar and seized a cash of Rs 73 lakh.

Following upon the leads got it by that a large amount of money had allegedly been transferred from HDIL to Mehul Thakur-controlled companies and trusts the ED raided Viva Group's offices at Andheri and Virar in Palghar district, residences of its top officials at Andheri, Juhu and Chembur in Mumbai.

In the raids conducted on three premises linked to the Viva Groups' head and two others connected with char-

tered accountants/financial consultants, the ED seized Rs 73 lakh in cash and incriminating documents.

It may be recalled that after the PMC bank scam broke out in September 2019, the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Mumbai Police had arrested two promoters of the Housing Development and Infrastructure Limited (HDIL) Sarang Kumar Wadhawan and Rakesh Wadhawan in connection with 5366 crore PMC Bank scam.

Subsequently, the ED launched a probe against HDIL's promoters Rakesh Wadhawan and Sarang Wadhawan, PMC Bank's former Chairman Waryam Singh and MD Joy Thomas, in connection with the same scam.

The ED seized several properties of Rakesh Wadhawan and Wadhawan

Family Trust worth Rs.293 crore, while it also seized jewellery worth Rs.63 crore were seized and attached and launched proceedings against them under the Prevention of Money-laundering Act (PMLA).

The investigations had revealed that the Wadhawans and Viva Group connived to divert over Rs.160-crore from HDIL to many companies of the latter (Viva Group) disguised as 'commission', though the funds were apparently an illegal diversion from the PMC Bank.

Simultaneously, the ED started probing another case against Rakesh Wadhawan and Sarang Wadhawan for siphoning off a long of Rs.200 crore sanctioned by Yes Bank to the Mack Star Marketing Pvt. Ltd., allegedly showing some fictitious purposes.

15-year-old girl, nephew killed in UP's Chitrakoot; rape suspected

Chitrakoot (UP): A 15-year-old girl was hacked to death with an axe allegedly after being raped and her four-year-old nephew killed in a village here, police said on Friday.

A 30-year-old man from the girl's village has been arrested in connection with the crime which took place on Thursday, they said. "The body of the girl was found in a village on Thursday. She was hacked to death with an axe," Superintendent of Police Ankit Mittal said. Her nephew was also attacked. He was rushed to the

hospital where he died during treatment, he said.

Circle Officer Subodh Gautam said the girl was attacked when she was returning home after giving food to her father in the field.

"Accused Chilua has been arrested by the police. The motive behind the crime is being probed," the officer said.

Gautam said the teenager's family has alleged that she was raped before being murdered. It will be confirmed after the post-mortem examination. "The post-mortem report is awaited," he said. **PTI**

22 people fall ill in Eluru; AP Deputy CM suspects conspiracy

Amaravati (AP): At least 22 people fell ill in Eluru city and a nearby mandal headquarters in West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh on Friday but Deputy Chief Minister (Health) A K K Srinivas suspected there could be a "conspiracy" behind it.

This comes more than a month after several hundred people in Eluru fell ill with symptoms of nausea in the first week of December last year.

The Deputy Chief Minister, who visited Poolla in West Godavari district and enquired about the situation from the victims' families, said they could not

rule out a conspiracy behind the outbreak of the mysterious illness. "We are thinking if there is a conspiracy. We have this suspicion, going by what the people here said. So, we can't rule that out. But we can't confirm that as well," Srinivas told a Telugu television news channel.

Official sources said the 22 persons suddenly fell unconscious as froth oozed from their mouths and they complained of giddiness.

"Six of these patients have been discharged after treatment while 15 were admitted to the District Hospital in Eluru. Another person was get-

ting treated in the local hospital in Poolla mandal headquarters," a senior official said.

"We have collected water and food samples from the houses of the victims and also nearby hotels and the wholesale vegetable market at Gundugolanu. We are collecting samples of meat, chicken, milk, rice and fertilisers used in paddy cultivation," he added.

Chief Secretary Aditya Nath Das, Principal Secretary (Health) Anil Kumar Singhal, Health Commissioner Katamaneni Bhaskar rushed to Eluru to take stock of the situation. **PTI**

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mr. Yogeshwar Dutt is owner of First Floor Back Portion, North Facing Gali admeasuring 100 sq. Yds., "said portion" of Plot No. 32-B, Kharsa No. 42/6, Old Kharsa No. 43/10, Situated at Rameshwar Nagar, Delhi, by virtue of Sale Deed dated 28.08.2019, Registration No.13210. All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner want to take loan against the said floor from Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd. If anybody has any objection/upon the said property / Floor, and its ownership / Title and Mortgage, kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.
Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants)
200, 1st Floor, 22, Shivaji Marg, West Nagar, N. Delhi-110 017, Ph. 41191527, kumarassociatesadvocates@gmail.com

EASTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. EPD/W/CON/PU PAINT/07/20-21, Dated: 07.01.2021. Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer (P&D)/Eastern Railway, Kancharapara invites open e-tender for the following work in Eastern Railway, Kancharapara Workshop from proven experienced contractor. **Tender No.: EPD/W/CON/PU PAINT/07/20-21.** **Name of work and its location:** Painting of electric locomotives body with pu paint and provision of retro reflective tapes, Qty-99 nos of locos. The work will be executed at Loco complex of Kancharapara Workshop. **Approx. cost of the work:** Rs. 1,04,88,690.71. **Earnest Money to be deposited:** Rs. 2,02,500/-. **Address of the office from e-tender initiated:** Office of the Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer/Planning & Development/ Eastern Railway/ Kancharapara Workshop, Pin-743145. **Tender document submission start date:** 22.01.2021. **Tender document submission start period:** Tender can be submitted from fifteen days before of 05.02.2021. **Date and time of opening of tender:** Tender will be opened on 05.02.2021 at 15:00 hrs. **Website particulars and notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen:** www.irps.gov.in MISC-183/2020-21 **Tender Notice is also available at websites:** www.ir.indianrailways.gov.in / www.irps.gov.in

कार्यालय, नगर पालिक निगम, रायगढ़ (छत्तीसगढ़)
क्र. 2057/लोक.वि.न.पा.नि./2021 रायगढ़, दिनांक 21/01/2021
II ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट द्वितीय निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना II
नगर पालिक निगम, रायगढ़ द्वारा निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु ऑनलाइन (Online) निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है :-
क्र.सि.नि. क्र. कार्य का विवरण अनुमानित लागत (रु. लाख में) निविदा खोलने/बंद करने की अंतिम तिथि
1 70963 REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL DOCUMENT FOR THE WORK OF "Scientific Dumpsite Land Reclamation through Bio-mining, Resource Recovery and Scientific Rejects Disposal, of Legacy waste (Old Municipal Solid Waste) as per SWM rule 2016 and guideline for Disposal of Legacy Waste at Trenching Ground/Bade Rampur Dump Site
उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्य की निविदा की सामान्य शर्तें, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत विधि, निविदा दर/लाभ/वेब अथवा जानकारी ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट वेब पोर्टल <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> से खोजने/बंद की जा सकती है।
कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, रायगढ़ (छ.ग.)

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that a lady namely **Seema Devi**, W/O Late Sh Pramod Singh R/O WZ-51 Naraina Village, New Delhi, **Age:** 48 years, **Height:** 5'2", **Built:** Medium, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** White Colour Saree and Brown Colour Blouse, Blue and Yellow Colour Hawai Chappal in her feet has been missing from her home since **09.01.2021 at 2.00 PM**. In this regard a **DD No. 90A**, dated **15.01.2021** has been registered at **P.S. Naraina, New Delhi**.
Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing lady but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this lady please inform undersigned.
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.nic.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 **SHO**
Fax: 011-24368639
DP/324/WD/2021 **P.S. Naraina, New Delhi**
Ph.: 011-25891181/ 8750871122

B'desh PM Hasina thanks Modi for Covid-19 vaccine gift

Dhaka: Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has thanked her Indian counterpart Narendra Modi for sending over two million doses of Covid-19 vaccine as a gift to Bangladesh.

India on Thursday officially handed over 2 million doses of domestically produced Covishield vaccine to Bangladesh. The vaccines were provided at a crucial time when the number of coronavirus cases in Bangladesh is rising.

"I thank Prime Minister Narendra Modi for sending the vaccine (batch) as a gift," Hasina said at an online international conference held on the occasion of the 100th founding anniversary of the University of Dhaka on Thursday. She said the government has already planned how it would proceed with the vaccine, the Dhaka Tribune reported.

"We have taken all the steps to face the COVID-19 situation in the country," Hasina

said. Apart from the current delivery of vaccines, Bangladesh is also set to purchase 3 crore doses of India-made coronavirus vaccine.

Hasina hoped that the vaccine that Bangladesh procured from India would arrive by January 25-26, the report said.

Bangladesh has so far recorded 7,966 COVID-19 deaths since the outbreak of the pandemic in March last year, while the total number of infections have surged to over 530,270. **PTI**

The farm divide

Whosoever wins this 'war of prestige', the poor peasants will still remain at the receiving end



No matter who wins the tug of war between the farmer unions and the Government, the poor cultivators will continue to remain at the receiving end. Who are these tens of thousands of farmers protesting on Delhi's borders for almost two months, demanding a repeal of the three new farm legislations and remunerative Minimum Support Price (MSP)? They certainly do not belong to the class of peasants that is neck-deep in debt and many of whom die by suicide every year as they see no option to bail themselves out of the vicious cycle of interest payments on loan by moneylenders. A majority of those camping at the interstate borders are big and upper-middle class landlords from Punjab, Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh who are part and parcel of the strong *arhatiya* (commission agents) lobby, a community that drives the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee's (APMC's) *mandis*. These farmers constitute a sizeable chunk of the vote bank of various political parties who cannot afford to go against the populist stance taken by the community. Only the APMC-licensed traders are allowed to purchase produce from farmers within that particular APMC's jurisdiction. This helps the cartel of traders and prevents the hardworking farmers from receiving a fair price for their produce. This is why, perhaps, the hectic parleys and several rounds of dialogue have yielded no result and the farmer leaders have even turned down the Centre's offer to put the new laws on hold. The latest round of talks on Friday also remained inconclusive, with no date fixed for the next meeting. The growers remain adamant on the full repeal of the farm Acts and for enacting a legislation on the MSP. The farmers have also raised doubts over receiving fair treatment at the hands of the members of the Supreme Court-appointed expert committee and termed it "biased". On the other hand, the apex court has made it clear that the panel, tasked to submit its report after noting the farmers' reservations, would proceed with or without their participation.

However, the farmers' apprehensions cannot just be brushed aside. The NDA Government's haste in finalising the three laws, the lack of consultation with stakeholders and the Bills' passage in Parliament without thoroughly discussing and debating these ought to raise a reasonable doubt over the Centre's intention. Further, these laws were first introduced in June 2020 as Ordinances before being approved by Parliament in September by a voice vote. The farmers allege that the Centre has made the laws for benefiting big corporate houses and is not concerned about the welfare of the peasants. It cannot be denied that by promoting private investment in the sector and allowing outside-APMC trade of farm produce, the Government will subsequently buy less from farmers, and it will eventually make the MSP system irrelevant. Further, there is no denying that India's MSP system is the costliest Government food procurement programme in the world. It's high time the Government and the farmers think about the pertinent issues impacting the agriculture sector. The Green Revolution has given us food self-sufficiency but the chemical fertiliser-centric farming has also led to enormous health and environmental hazards, besides degrading the soil's fertility. These harmful carcinogens have become embedded into our food web. Further, the introduction of hybrid and transgenic varieties of seeds and crops, just for the sake of increasing productivity and meeting the market demand, is a potent threat to indigenous varieties. These local varieties are naturally resistant to many diseases and pests, and are part of our rich genetic stock. Apart from focusing on eco-friendly agriculture, the Government must devise an effective policy to help the poor peasants who are in distress and who are always at the receiving end, no matter what.

Manufacturing champions

'Make in India' is already a success story for some companies; this should inspire others



As Hero MotoCorp rolled an Xtreme 160R off its manufacturing line at Gurugram on Thursday, it might have been just another motorcycle rolling off the line. But this one was being ridden off the line by Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan. That was because this was two-wheeler number 100 million to roll off one of Hero's various lines across India and abroad. The company, which has been the world's largest two-wheeler manufacturer for a few years now, and also in India where it has a market share of about 46 per cent, reached this milestone after four decades of operating, and has seen its sales shoot up after breaking up with its erstwhile partner, Japan's Honda Motor Company. And Pawan Munjal, the chairman of the company, believes that Hero will sell its second 100 million within the next decade as it expands globally from Central and South America and even Africa. And while the spotlight might be on Hero, others — such as Bajaj Auto and TVS Motors — have also been huge 'Make In India' superstars with Bajaj, in particular, one of the strongest performers in the export market, its name ubiquitous in many parts of the world for their three-wheelers and the Pulsar motorcycle, has been so successful that Bajaj's Chinese rivals have taken to copying it. India's success story in the two-wheeler segment proves that Indian companies can be champions in manufacturing as well, and the narrative that India lost out to China in manufacturing does not hold true. Much like Bajaj, another Pune-based company, the Serum Institute of India (SII), is playing a major role in manufacturing the AstraZeneca-Oxford University vaccine for the world. Even Prime Minister Narendra Modi endorsed its work and importance by saying that India's fight against the Coronavirus pandemic strengthened the country's health infrastructure through the 'Make in India' mission. Lauding companies like the SII, Bharat Biotech and others, he said that India took quick, proactive decisions and did not wait for the problem to aggravate.

Similarly, the Cabinet Committee on Security last week approved a ₹48,000-crore agreement for the acquisition of 83 Tejas Light Combat Aircraft for the Indian Air Force — the largest indigenous procurement deal to date. The Defence establishment also unveiled a slew of new, indigenously-developed equipment at an Army innovation event that included Shakti, a cutting-edge bulletproof jacket, a 9mm machine pistol and a surveillance 'microcopter', among other technologies. India cannot only be self-sufficient, India can and must manufacture for the world. While our services sector has proved that India can be the back office for the globe and we can make software for the entire world, manufacturing in India can employ millions and turbocharge job creation which should be the priority of the Government right now. As companies seek to diversify their manufacturing chains away from China after the pandemic, successes like Hero, Bajaj and TVS prove that India can do it and that it can be a destination for high-quality manufacturing. Yes, there remain some pitfalls in terms of compliances, legal and regulatory issues, and as the recent incident in Bengaluru shows when an irate Communist mob attacked the facilities of Taiwanese company Winstrom that was making iPhones, there are still some major problems. And those have to be resolved if both the Government's ambitious schemes — 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat's and 'Make In India' — are to go to the next level.

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In Trump they trust

Why do Americans in such large numbers continue to support the Don? Could it be the search for security that drives them?



HIRANMAY KARLEKAR

What explains the fact of tens of millions of Donald Trump's supporters remaining fiercely loyal to him even after his role in the deplorable storming of the Capitol Hill on January 6? The question is important. The army of supporters is numerically huge and, reports say, the Right-wing extremist groups in their ranks are likely to continue to resort to violence and terror on an escalating scale.

Any search for an explanation must begin by identifying those involved in the January 6 outrage. A *Reuters* report by Ted Hesson, Ned Parker, Kristina Cooke and Julia Harte, datelined January 8, cites Devin Burghart, executive director of the Institute for Research and Education on Human Rights, which tracks extremism, as saying that protesters at the Capitol building on January 6 included some of the most extreme elements of Trump's base, including White nationalists, militia groups and QAnon conspiracy theorists.

The last-named perhaps played the most important part in the storming as well as in organising it. As a report, by Drew Harwell, Isaac Stanley-Becker, Razzan Nakhlaui and Craig Timberg in *The Washington Post* — datelined January 13, 2021 — puts it: "The siege on the US Capitol played out as a QAnon fantasy made real: The faithful rose up in their thousands, summoned to Washington by their leader, President Trump. They seized the people's house as politicians covered under desks." It further states: "Born in the Internet's fever swamps, QAnon played an unmistakable role in energising rioters during the real-world attack on Jan 6." A report by Mike Wendling, datelined January 6, in *BBC*, states: "Supporters of the QAnon movement were among the crowd that stormed the US Capitol building on Wednesday. Several prominent activists were spotted inside the building..."

According to these reports, QAnon propagates the baseless theory that Trump is waging a secret war against a cabal of deep State operators, entrenched in the Government, business and media, who are paedophiles worshipping Satan and trafficking in children for sex. They, according to *The Washington Post* report, hold that there will be a final day of reckoning when "prominent people such as former presidential can-



didate, Hillary Clinton, will be arrested and executed".

The other Right-wing organisations involved included the Boogaloo movement, which comprises Right-wing extremist groups whose ideologies and stand on issues like racism sometimes differ. Some of them are White supremacists, some are not. Many of them believe in Neo-Nazism. The movement's adherents, known as Boogaloo Boys or Boogaloo Bois, are, however, united in their opposition to gun control measures and in working towards a second civil war to bring down the US Federal Government. Also involved was the far-Right, anti-immigrant, all-male group called Proud Boys, which has a history of street violence against its Left-wing opponents. It stands for glorifying entrepreneurship, ending welfare, everyone's right to own guns and women playing traditional gender roles, like being housewives.

One now returns to the question: Why do people in such massive numbers continue to support Trump, with many joining the Right-wing extremist groups advocating violence to achieve their goals? According to Erich Fromm in *Fear of Freedom*, the search for security is the most powerful factor drawing people to militant mass movements. He adds that despite the biological separation caused by birth, a child "remains functionally one with its mother's world for a considerable period." The primary ties which link a mother to a child "offer security and basic unity

with the world outside oneself".

Slowly, the child becomes aware of its separateness from its mother and others. With physical, emotional and mental development, an "organised structure guided by the individual's will and reason develops. If we call this organised and integrated whole of the personality the self, we can also say that the [sic] *one side of the growing process of individuation is the growth of self-strength*". (The italics are Fromm's). On the other side, one, on becoming an individual, and facing the world with all its threats and perils alone, experiences an increasing feeling of "aleness" and insecurity.

Fromm believes that to overcome the feeling of loneliness and insecurity, one needs "to relate to the world in love and work; in the genuine expression of one's emotional, sensuous and intellectual capacities", becoming "one with man, nature and himself, without giving up the integrity and independence of his individual self". Not all can do this. Those who cannot, resort to sadism and masochism.

Fromm holds that the infliction of pain is not the essence of sadism. "All the different forms of sadism" are rooted in the simple impulse to have complete mastery over another person, "to make him a helpless object of one's will, to become the absolute ruler over him..." The feeling of strength and power arising from the exercise of absolute control enables the sadist to overcome his/her feeling of insecurity.

Masochists "attempt to become a part of a bigger and more powerful whole outside oneself, to submerge and participate in it. This power can be a person, or an institution, God, the nation, conscience or a psychic compulsion". One "surrenders one's own self and renounces all strength and pride, one loses one's integrity as an individual and surrenders freedom" but gets a new security and a new pride in the participation in the power in which one submerges. One also "gets security against the torture of doubt". Clearly, masochism plays a critical role in driving people to totalitarian extremist organisations — whether of the Left or the Right — demanding total, unquestioning acceptance or its creed.

Two questions arise here. What causes insecurity among large sections of people in a rich democracy like the US? A feeling of insecurity need not be caused by actual physical threats or apprehensions thereof. It is a psychological phenomenon caused by social, economic and cultural conditions. Success, for example, is highly valued in the US — perhaps more than in any other country. Failure to achieve it often leads to a feeling of inadequacy, triggering a feeling of insecurity. The fear of failure can haunt even the very successful as an uninterrupted continuity of upward progression cannot be taken for granted.

A more specific cause of insecurity — certainly a factor in the emergence of the White supremacist groups — is the fear of a large section of White

Americans of being marginalised by non-Whites — African-Americans, Asians, Latin Americans and others. They see in Barack Obama's election as the President, and Kamala Harris's as Vice-President, both celebrations of American democracy and a corroboration of their fears. There are other causes of insecurity — fear of an economic downturn, job loss, violence in the streets and, more recently, the COVID-19 pandemic, among others.

The Right-wing variety of it, however, is not the only kind of extremism the US has seen. The hippie movement of the 1960s and '70s, albeit of a harmless and peaceful variety, was another. It stood for the wholesale rejection of the American way of life with all its values and symbols — the pursuit of success and wealth, the culture of consumption, personal cleanliness, living in comfortable houses and so on. Its cause was similar but a tad different from that spawning Right-wing extremism. Eric Hoffer identifies it in *The True Believer: Thoughts on the Nature of Mass Movements* and says: "A rising mass movement attracts and holds its following not by its doctrine and promises but from the refuge it offers from the anxieties, barrenness and meaninglessness of an individual existence. It cures the poignantly frustrated not by conferring on them an absolute truth or by removing the difficulties and abuses which made their lives miserable but by freeing them from their ineffectual selves, and it does so by enfolding and absorbing them into a closely-knit and exultant corporate whole".

What is to be done? A comprehensive congressional investigation into all aspects of the January 6 outrage should begin even as the identification and arrest of the perpetrators continue. It must cover a wide range — failure to prevent the storming, causes of security and/or intelligence failure, possible extremist infiltration of the armed forces and intelligence agencies, and any other matter that may come up during hearings. Simultaneously, the social, economic and cultural causes of large-scale alienation need to be probed and corrective educational measures and the establishment of an extensive network of counselling services, discussed. Finally, there has to be a global view. The challenge of violent extremism is a global menace.

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

SOUND BITE

Three farm laws were prepared in haste and Parliament was consciously denied an opportunity to examine in any meaningful detail the implications and impact.

Congress interim president
Sonia Gandhi



Some transatlantic disputes, among them the Nord Stream 2 project, are still to be settled with the new US Administration. Germany and the US should put everything on the table.

German Chancellor
Angela Merkel



When I started working there, nobody made opportunities for me. In fact, opportunities for people who are South Asian and look like us are very limited in Hollywood.

Actor
Priyanka Chopra



Australia are no more the best team in the world and what England should be focusing at is to beat India in India as they have been virtually unbeatable at home since 2012.

Former England off-spinner
Graeme Swan



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Exemplary umpiring

Sir — The celebrations are on after the win on the Australian soil. The players deserve all the hype, hoopla and hysteria over this incredible win. Our cricket was extraordinary and the standard of umpiring was outstanding in Australia. Even when there was a racial abuse, the umpires offered the players the option to leave the Sydney Cricket Ground in protest.

The exemplary home umpiring really gave a glimpse of the high standards. An umpire should be a professional with absolute integrity and ever prepared to discharge his duties fearlessly and impartially. A good umpire is dedicated to the task of conducting a game so that the players and spectators get the utmost enjoyment from it. The finest umpires are those who appear to make the fewest mistakes. Without the ability to self-discipline for attaining concentration, all else is to no avail. The Australian umpires did a commendable job in the entire series; that was the highlight of the series and removed the tag of lopsided Aussie umpiring.

CK Subramaniam
Mumbai

Nitish must control goons, but not like UP does

The Nitish Kumar Government in Bihar must show seriousness over the rising incidents of crime in the State. The recent killing of an airline manager in Patna and two other horrific crimes, the gang rape and murder of a minor girl and the gang rape of a deaf and mute girl, in the past few days show that there are some serious lapses in maintaining law and order in the State and the citizens are not safe. Nitish not only lost his equanimity but made some sharp responses to questions from the media by saying that the media was trying to demoralise the police force.

But what was more significant was the response of some BJP leaders from the State, to which the Chief Minister did not reply. The BJP leaders want Nitish to adopt the Uttar Pradesh model of gunning down criminals in encounters. It is a matter of grave concern that this model is being recommended for other states. It is a model where the rule of law has no place and the rights of citizens are not respected. Summary execution of suspects without investigation of crimes and trial is the new norm and Uttar Pradesh has seen many such



incidents. This model has not brought the crime rate down but only raised a new class of criminals in uniform. The Government has given license to the police to do as it pleases, and anybody could be a victim. Nitish Kumar must not follow the model of Uttar Pradesh while dealing with criminals but set a precedent by adopting such practices that are not a blot on policing and democracy.

Shovanlal Chakraborty
Kolkata

Tighten the noose on OTT

Sir — The unregulated use of OTT platform has propelled the Information and Broadcasting (I&B) Ministry to promulgate an overarching statute which provides for self-regulation of these platforms. Such regulation is necessary in times where sensitive video content and fake news

travel far and wide quickly.

The I&B Ministry must take action against the complaints pertaining to use of foul language, violence and adult content shown on OTT platforms, which are inappropriate for audiences below the age of 18. Moreover, digital complaints against single-shop digital new websites have also risen with regard to the circulation of

fake news without retraction or clarification. The proposed regulation is likely to accord a higher degree of protection to the viewers in a previously unregulated domain. Moreover, this regulation is likely to address and redress consumer complaints pertaining to content on OTT.

Bhagwan Thadani
Mumbai

Jab of political dividend

Sir — In a vast country like ours, with a huge population, administering COVID-19 vaccine is a Herculean exercise. However, the Union Government is up to the task of managing such a large section of people and providing them the job. It is a masterstroke, which the people of this country will not forget in the times to come. It will pay dividends for the BJP in the next Lok Sabha elections.

COVID-19 has fallen upon us in 2020 like an unexpected visitor out to shock the human race. Unlike wars or natural catastrophes, COVID-19 is likely to leave more insidious consequences.

India's vaccine rollout is more than about protection from the pandemic. It is also symbolic of economic rejuvenation and return of normalcy after a year of distress. The healing project is on and we will win over the world again with grit and determination and provide free vaccines to other countries in an effort to help the human race survive.

Jyanthi Subramaniam
Mumbai

Send your feedback to:
letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

A matter of confusion

The title, 'Status of Leopards in India', is a bit misleading as this report is on the number of leopards in tiger States, not for the whole of India



HARI SHANKER SINGH

A report titled the 'Status of leopards in India: 2018', prepared by the National Tiger Conservation Authority and Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, was released in 2020. However, the title is a bit misleading as this report is on the status of leopards in the tiger States of India, not for the whole of the country. In fact, the 'Status of leopards in India: 2018' is based on the fourth cycle of tiger population assessment in the Tiger Landscape that was undertaken using the camera image capture and recapture method.

It is stated in the report that the leopard population in India has increased from 7,910 in 2014 to 12,580 sub-adult and adult leopards in 2018 in the 18 tiger-bearing States of the country. Immediately, the media jumped on this number without going into the report and stated that the leopard population had increased by 60 per cent in India. The international media, too, highlighted that the population of the smart cat was 12,580 subadult and adult leopards, but this was only half the truth. During the All-India Tiger Estimation in 2018, the leopard population, too, was estimated within the forested habitats of the tiger States. However, within the tiger States also, other leopard-occupied areas such as non-forested habitats (coffee and tea plantations, ravines and other areas where leopards are known to occur), higher elevations in the Himalayas, arid landscapes and a majority of the landscapes in the North-East were not sampled. Therefore, the population estimation should be considered as the minimum number of leopards in the tiger distribution range of the country.

The fact remains that leopards are present in 29 States and one Union Territory in India and the fourth cycle of assessment was restricted to tiger distribution areas in just 18 States. Even in these States, the entire leopard habitat was not surveyed. This raises concerns as these findings do not represent the facts or the leopard numbers for the entire country.

For instance, the high concentration zone of the leopard in the Himalayas, that has been witnessing intense human-leopard conflicts in Uttarakhand, was not covered in the survey. The Forest Department of Uttarakhand estimated that there were about 2,100-2,400 leopards in the State during the three previous leopard censuses. This reveals that about two-third leopard habitats were not surveyed in Uttarakhand in the fourth cycle of assessment in 2018. Two other Himalayan territories i.e. Himachal Pradesh and the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir are in the leopard zone. They, too, have been facing serious man-leopard conflicts. The Forest Department of Himachal Pradesh had reported 761 leopards in the previous count, although field officials were of the opinion that there was a higher population of the elusive cat than had been reported.

Similarly, Jammu and Kashmir also support hundreds of leopards. Gujarat is another major State which counted 1,395 leopards (1,220 adult and subadults while the rest were cubs) in 2016. Except for some areas, say below 10 per cent of the forested land, the entire forested area of seven States in the North-East and West Bengal was not covered in this survey. An analysis of the data procured from all Chief Wildlife Wardens revealed that about one-third of the leopard population occurs in about 384 Protected Areas, covering about 1,36,551 square kilometre (sq km) in India. The current occupancy area may be roughly in the range of about half of Indian forests, say about 3,00,000 sq km.

The report on the 'Status of leopards in India: 2018' in tiger States, the leopard censuses by forest departments in non-tiger States and many other studies provide the basis for assessment of the population of leopards in India.

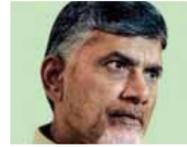
Outside the country, the Indian leopard, a subspecies out of eight subspecies of leopards in the world, has a population of about 1,200 to 1,500 in Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan and a few in the bordering countries of Bangladesh, Myanmar and China. Out of about 20,000-22,000 adult and subadult leopards belonging to seven subspecies of the Asian leopards, three-fourth are found in India and the rest in about 30 countries in Asia. The African leopard, a subspecies, has a different story as its number is several times, perhaps 20 times, the combined population of all leopards in Asia. Even though the number of leopards in India has increased over the years, there is a need to conserve the beautiful and highly intelligent animal. This is becoming more and more difficult given the increasing instances of man-animal conflict in India which, more often than not, results in the big cat being at the receiving end of man's cruelty. It is high time that we learn to live in harmony with nature and leave the habitats of these creatures untouched. After all, they too have as much right over this world as we humans do. Our children need to be taught this lesson in sharing the world and its resources from a very young age. Else, the loss will be ours.

(The writer is Member, National Board for Wildlife. The views expressed are personal.)

NAIDU IS STRUGGLING POLITICALLY IN THE LAST LEG OF HIS LIFE. HE IS TRYING TO SALVAGE HIS POLITICAL LIFE WITH RELIGIOUS DIVISIONS.

—YSRCP LEADER
V VIJAYASAI REDDY

POINT COUNTERPOINT



GOVERNMENT RULE SHOULD TRANSFORM PEOPLE'S LIVES BUT YSRCP IS RULING IN SUCH A WAY THAT PEOPLE ARE THINKING IT IS OKAY IF THEY ARE ALIVE.

—TDP CHIEF
N CHANDRABABU NAIDU

A vision for modern India

Subhas Chandra Bose aimed for nothing less than the formation of a new and happy India on the basis of the eternal principles of liberty, democracy and socialism



PRASHANT TEWARI

The two figures who dominated the last leg of India's freedom struggle were Mahatma Gandhi's favourite soldiers, namely Fabian Socialist acolyte Jawaharlal Nehru and assertive and aggressive Subhas Chandra Bose, a man who admired the Mahatma but despaired at his aims and methods. Bose played a prominent role in India's political life post-1930. He was twice elected president of the Indian National Congress (INC), the country's most important political force for freedom from British rule. Both before and during World War-II, Bose worked tirelessly to secure German and Japanese support in freeing India. During the final two years of the war, Bose, with considerable Japanese backing, led the forces of the Indian National Army (INA) into battle against the British. Without a shadow of a doubt, Bose remains one of the key figures in the history of India's Independence.

True to his character, Bose propounded the fusion ideology of socialism and fascism: In years that followed, he asserted that India must have a political system of an authoritarian character. In India, though, Bose is regarded as a national hero in spite of his praise of autocratic leadership and authoritarian Government, and admiration for European fascist regimes with which he allied himself. Bose was frequently denounced as a fascist, particularly in the wake of the radical, revolutionary (as opposed to reformist) views he expressed in radio addresses broadcast to India from National Socialist Germany and, later, from quasi-fascist Japan. By 1930, Bose had formulated the broad strategy that he believed India must follow to throw off the yoke of British imperialism and assume its rightful place as a leader in Asia. Until his death 15 years later, Bose would continue publicly to praise certain aspects of fascism and express his hope for a synthesis of that ideology and socialism.

However, he was willing to tone down his radical political beliefs on those occasions when he considered it necessary to do so. For example, in his February 1938 inaugural speech as president of the INC, Bose made a sincere attempt to placate the Gandhian faction. A year later he successfully re-contested the presidential election, but two months later was forced to resign because of his differences with Gandhiji and the Gandhian faction. Bose once again proclaimed his belief in the efficacy of authoritarian Government and a synthesis of fascism and socialism. He struggled throughout his life for the independence of India, in his own way.

Along with his abiding love for his country, Bose had an equally passionate hatred for the imperial power that ruled it: Great Britain. In a radio address broadcast from Berlin on March 1, 1943, he exclaimed that Britain's demise was near and predicted that it would be "India's privilege to end that Satanic Empire." Bose was able to give a much grander expression to his "militarism" when, in 1930, he volunteered to form a guard of honour during the ceremonial functions at the Calcutta session of the Congress Party. Gandhiji and several other champions of ahimsa were uncomfortable with this display. A high point in Bose's "military career" came in July 1943 in Singapore. At a mass meeting there on July 4, Rash Behari Bose (no relation) handed over to him the leadership of the Indian Independence League. This 'Azad Hind Fauj' would not only "emancipate India from the British yoke," he told the soldiers, but would become the standing

“NONETHELESS, HAVING HIMSELF BEEN IMPRISONED 11 TIMES AND SENT INTO EXILE THREE TIMES, BOSE WAS COMMITTED TO UPHOLDING THE RIGHTS OF MINORITY INTELLECTUAL, RELIGIOUS, CULTURAL AND RACIAL GROUPS. HE HOPED FOR SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL FREEDOM FOR INDIANS”



national army of the liberated nation. Bose clearly admired strong, vigorous, military-type leaders, and in 'The Indian Struggle' he listed several whom he particularly respected. These included Hitler, Mussolini and Stalin. Nowhere in this book is there any criticism of these dictators for having too much power, yet another man is chastised for this: Gandhiji. Bose admired Gandhiji for many things, not least his ability to "exploit the mass psychology of the people, just as Lenin did the same thing in Russia, Mussolini in Italy and Hitler in Germany." But he accused Gandhiji of accepting too much power and responsibility, of becoming a "dictator for the whole country" who issued "decrees" to the Congress. According to Bose, the Mahatma was a brilliant and gifted man but, unlike Mussolini, Hitler and Stalin, a very ineffective leader.

Gandhiji had failed to liberate India because of his frequent indecision and constant willingness to compromise with the Raj (something Bose said he would never do). Bose's militarism, ambition and leadership traits do not necessarily indicate (contrary to popular opinion) that he was a leader in the fascist mould.

Bose proclaimed, on October 21, 1943, the formation of the Provisional Government of 'Azad Hind (Free India)'. While retaining his post as Supreme Commander of the INA, he announced that he was naming himself Head of State, Prime Minister and Minister for War and Foreign Affairs. (The most important of these positions — Head of State — he anticipated retaining in a free India.) These appointments involved no democratic process or voting of any kind.

He demanded total obedience and loyalty from the Indians in south Asia and anyone who opposed him, his army or government faced imprisonment, torture, or even execution. Bose aimed for nothing less than the formation of "a new India and a happy India on the

basis of the eternal principles of liberty, democracy and socialism." He rejected communism (at least its Soviet version) because of its internationalism and because he believed that the theoretical ideal found in the writings of Marx could not be applied, without modification, to India. Still, he maintained socialist views throughout his adult life and, on many occasions, expressed his hope for an egalitarian, industrialised society in which the State would control the basic means of production.

He was opposed to liberalism, believing that greater emphasis should be placed on social goals than on the will of individuals. The wishes of citizens, he reasoned, must be subordinate to the needs of the State, especially during the struggle for Independence and the period of reconstruction immediately following liberation. Nonetheless, having himself been imprisoned 11 times and sent into exile three times, he was committed to upholding the rights of minority intellectual, religious, cultural and racial groups. He hoped for social, economic and political freedom for Indians and would, he said "wage a relentless war against bondage of every kind till the people can become really free."

Of course, Bose demanded not only the total mobilisation of Indian resources in south Asia but everywhere else, too. He called for mass mobilisation not only in support of his army, but also for his dynamic new government, the various branches of which required financing and manpower. First, his ideology and actions were not the result of any extreme neurotic or pathological psychosocial impulses. He was not a megalomaniac, nor did he display any of the pathological traits often attributed to fascists, such as aggression, obsessive hatred or delusions. Moreover, while he was an ardent patriot and nationalist, Bose's nationalism was cultural, not racialist. Second, his radical political ideology was shaped

by a consuming frustration with the unsuccessful efforts of others to gain independence for India. His "fascist" outlook did not come from a drive for personal power or social elevation. While he was ambitious his obsession was not adulation or power, but rather freedom for his motherland: A goal for which he was willing to suffer and sacrifice, even his life.

Bose was favourably impressed with the discipline and organisational strength of fascism as early as 1930, when he first expressed support for a synthesis of fascism and socialism. During his stays in Europe he was deeply moved by the dynamism of the two major "fascist" powers, Italy and Germany. After observing these regimes first-hand, he developed a political ideology of his own that, he was convinced, could bring about the liberation of India and the total reconstruction of its society along vaguely authoritarian-socialist lines. Bose's lack of success in liberating India was certainly not due to any lack of effort. From 1921, when he became the first Indian to resign formally from the Indian Civil Service, until his death in 1945 as leader of an Indian government in exile, Bose struggled ceaselessly to achieve freedom and prosperity for his beloved homeland.

In the present context, politics since 2014 has been inspired by Netaji's brand of politics and the present leadership of the country has genuinely embraced his ideology and political wisdom. The country is more assertive and aggressive though, unfortunately, certain democratic rights are infringed in the process. Though, history will judge the outcome regarding the better option of being Left or Right-wing, but the country voted for Narendra Modi in 2019 to reaffirm the faith in Netaji's philosophy and vision for a modern and strong India.

(The writer is Editor, Opinion Express, and columnist, The Pioneer. The views expressed are personal.)

India's medical devices sector gets a fillip

The outbreak taught us the importance of local manufacturing, the domestic market and local supply chains



HIMANSHU BAID

The COVID-19 pandemic presented India with unique conditions that forced the country to fast track innovations in the medical devices sector which, up until now, was highly dependent on imports. The Government's proactive approach in seeking the participation of entrepreneurs, national and global medical devices companies for innovation and collaboration in the medical devices sector resulted in a host of solutions to help overcome the challenges posed by the pandemic.

As a result of this, several public-private partnerships (PPPs) and

collaborations are already underway to address the gaps in the healthcare sector. These range from the COVID-19 Taskforce which brought together various technological advancements related to the virus in public Research & Development (R&D) laboratories, academia, startups, and industries to the Department of Pharmaceuticals, which partnered with various Ministries, academia and a group of private companies for the indigenous production of high-quality medical devices at a much lower cost as compared to imported ones.

In the war against COVID-19, the med-tech sector in India has stood firmly with the Government and private healthcare delivery players. The Coronavirus outbreak was especially challenging for India which has always had a highly import-dependent medical devices sector. Through its flagship 'Make in India' initiative, the Centre has taken steps in the right direction by relying on local Indian manufacturers to

meet the increased demand for essential medical equipment and consumables. Collaboration in the manufacturing sector has never been so important as it has been in the midst of this outbreak. This is because, no manufacturer has been left untouched by the effects of the pandemic. The manufacturing community coming together to produce critical medical supplies for the country, shows that we can do extraordinary things through collaboration.

The world has seen the danger of relying on only a few countries for critical supplies. India has already started promoting itself as an alternative low-cost manufacturing destination. Lots of companies will emerge out of the current crisis with much stronger customer and supplier relationships, which will put them in a good position for the future. To further promote local manufacturing, the Government introduced the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme. The PLI scheme for

the medical devices sector will help meet the objective of product diversification and innovation. Under this scheme, the Government has witnessed a very positive response from the industry, whereby 28 applications were submitted by 23 medical device manufacturers and 215 came from 83 pharmaceutical firms. These initiatives have the potential to contribute significantly in achieving self-reliance in the medical technology sector.

In the nation's attempts to stay ahead of any unforeseen threats, diagnostics has a pivotal role to play. Obtaining timely, patient-level data on emerging threats to global health, including infectious diseases will be crucial in the long run. Framing of disease-control strategies can be aided through capturing and sharing of patient healthcare data from testing which can be instrumental in improving triage and management of infectious diseases before they become severe outbreaks.

India needs to continue with its

bold efforts to be able to position itself strongly in the post-pandemic world by creating a more conducive environment for global and domestic manufacturing of medical devices, vaccines and pharma products. With an exemplar shift in global economies and geopolitics, it will be crucial for India to re-strategise a clear long-term road map for the promotion of this industry.

The contagion has accelerated reliance on diagnostics and testing. The focus of the Government since the start of the pandemic has been to scale and upgrade testing infrastructure and ensure availability of testing kits. In addition, the designated COVID-19 laboratories require skilled manpower for operating various instruments and accessories, and for the use of software for accurate reporting of test results.

There is a colossal need to train staff to efficiently handle samples and operate instruments in multiple shifts in order to ramp up the testing capability. Boosting local man-

ufacturing will help in expanding the country's domestic production and national self-sufficiency for implementing scalable testing strategies. Domestic manufacturers came forward to develop low-cost diagnostic kits, including Viral Transport Media kits, RT-PCR kits and RNA isolation kits, for the pandemic. The large-scale production of all these kits helped meet the requirements of the country, reducing its dependence on imports.

The Novel Coronavirus outbreak has managed to teach us the importance of local manufacturing, the domestic market and local supply chains. Through concerted efforts, the Government, healthcare stakeholders and the industry can drive innovation in diagnostics by making resources available and the healthcare ecosystem more agile in the fight against these emerging threats.

(The author is Managing Director, Poly Medicure Ltd. The views expressed are personal.)



FOREIGN EYE



THE WEST MUST PUSH XI BACK

President Xi Jinping's expansionist policies abroad and dictatorship at home make pressing the need for new geopolitical strategy. There is little doubt 2021 will see concerted western pushback like sanctions on individuals to bans on Chinese investment in strategic industries and new laws linking two-way trade to human rights.

(The Observer editorial)

Biden halts border wall building after Trump's final surge

San Diego (US): In the days before Joe Biden became US president, construction crews worked quickly to finish Donald Trump's wall at an iconic cross-border park overlooking the Pacific Ocean, which then-first lady Pat Nixon inaugurated in 1971 as a symbol of international friendship.

Biden on Wednesday ordered a "pause" on all wall construction within a week, one of 17 executive orders issued on his first day in office, including six dealing with immigration.

The order leaves billions of dollars of work unfinished - but still under contract - after Trump worked feverishly last year to build more than 450 miles (720 km), a goal he said he achieved eight days before leaving office.

As of January 15, the government spent \$6.1 billion of the \$10.8 billion in work it signed contracts to have done, according to a Senate Democratic aide with knowledge of

the contracts who spoke on condition of anonymity because details have not been made public.

The full amount under contract would have extended Trump's wall to 664 miles (1,069 km). Biden, seeking to fulfil a pledge not to build "another foot", gave his administration two months to determine how much it would cost to cancel contracts and whether money could be spent elsewhere.

The Senate aide said fees would be negotiated with contractors and the administration would seek to spend whatever's left on related uses on the border, such as roads, lights, sensors and other technology.

Publicly, the Trump administration said it secured \$15 billion for the wall. The Senate aide said it was actually \$16.45 billion as of Wednesday, \$5.8 billion of which was appropriated by Congress and the rest diverted from the Defence and Treasury departments. **AP**

Biden has no plans to call Trump: WH

Washington: US President Joe Biden has no plans to call his predecessor Donald Trump, the White House has said. "There's no call planned," White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki told reporters at a news conference on Thursday.

She was responding to questions on the remarks made by Biden a day earlier when he said that Trump has left him a "very generous" letter in the Oval Office, and he plans to talk to him. Trump did not attend his inauguration, a rare for an outgoing president.

"What he was conveying is that he didn't want to release a private note without having agreement from the former president. But I wouldn't say he's seeking it through a phone call, he was just trying to be respectful in that moment of a private letter that was sent," Psaki said. It is customary for outgoing presidents to write their successors a letter and leave it for them on the Resolute Desk in the Oval Office.

However, given that the former president broke several of the past traditions, including skipping Biden's inauguration ceremony and never formally congratulated him on his election win, it was unclear until Wednesday whether Trump would maintain the tradition of outgoing presidents leaving notes for their successors.

"The president wrote a very generous letter. Because it was private, I will not talk about it until I talk to him. But it was generous," Biden had told reporters in the Oval Office of the White House on Wednesday. **PTI**

US Prez launches '100 days mask challenge'; makes Covid test, quarantine mandatory for people entering US

Washington: US President Joe Biden has unveiled his "wartime" national strategy to boost the fight against the raging COVID-19 pandemic, including making the coronavirus test followed by quarantine mandatory for all travellers coming from overseas.

Announcing the measures, Biden said it would take months to defeat the pandemic but America would "get through this" if people stood together. The moves come a day after Biden was sworn in as the 46th president. In addition to wearing masks, everyone flying to the United States from another country will need to test before they get on that plane, before they depart, and quarantine when they arrive in America," Biden said at a White House event where he signed the orders.

In terms of total deaths from coronavirus, the US is the worst-hit country with more than 406,000 lives lost, according to Johns Hopkins University. Nearly 24.5 million have been infected in the country.

US airlines and their employees have been seeking such a federal mask mandate almost since the pandemic began, as they have struggled to deal with score of passengers who refuse to follow the airlines' own mask-wearing rules. But the previous Trump administration had refused to enact such a mask mandate, as the ex-president himself and many in his administration often made a point of going mask-less. **PTI**

Kamala Harris as Vice President further cements US-India relationship: WH

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The historic inauguration of Kamala Harris as America's vice president has further cemented the importance of the relationship between the United States and India, according to a top White House official.

Born to a Jamaican father and an Indian mother, 56-year-old Harris made history on Wednesday when she was sworn in as the first female, first Black and first Asian-American US vice-president. The former senator from California was sworn in just before Joe Biden, 78, took the oath of office to become the 46th President of the United States.

Addressing reporters at her daily news conference on Thursday, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said President Biden respects the long bipartisan successful relationship between the two countries.

"President Biden, of

course, has visited India many times, respects and values the long bipartisan successful relationship between leaders in India and the United States. It looks forward to a continuation of that," Psaki said responding to a question on India-US relationship under the new Biden administration.

The historic inauguration of Indian-origin Harris, she said, further cements this relationship.

"Obviously, he (Biden) selected and yesterday, she (Harris) was sworn in as the first Indian-American to serve as president or vice president. Certainly, a historic moment for all of us in this country but a further cementing of the importance of our relationship," Psaki said.

On Wednesday, Harris credited her mother for showing faith in her and always reminding her two daughters that "though we may be the first, we should not be the last."

Harris remembered her

late mother Shyamala Gopalan, a cancer researcher and civil rights activist from India, saying she has always carried that lesson from her mother with her throughout her career from serving as the first woman District Attorney of San Francisco, to the first woman Attorney General of California, and the first woman of colour to represent California in the United States Senate.

"My story is the story of millions of Americans. My mother Shyamala Gopalan arrived in the United States from India. She raised my sister Maya and me to know that though we may be the first, we should not be the last," Harris said at the Presidential Inaugural Committee's official Asian American inaugural ball, hosted virtually by IMPACT, the leading Indian American advocacy and political action committee.

"Your continued faith in me has brought me to this moment," she said.

Biden admin believes WHO is vital to contain Covid-19 pandemic, VP Harris tells WHO chief

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The Biden administration believes that the WHO is vital to controlling the spread of COVID-19 and building back better global health and pandemic preparedness, Vice President Kamala Harris has told WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, a day after the US rejoined the UN health agency.

The US rejoined the World Health Organisation (WHO) on Wednesday in one of the first official orders of the Joe Biden presidency, reversing a key foreign policy decision his predecessor Donald Trump took last year after accusing the UN health agency of incompetence and bowing to Chinese pressure over the coronavirus pandemic.

In April last year, as the coronavirus pandemic was spreading across the globe, Trump cut off US funding to the WHO, saying it was "virtually controlled by China."

He then went further, triggering the process to pull the US completely out of the organisation.

The withdrawal was due to go into effect in July this year, but Biden's order will cancel it.

During her phone call on Thursday, Harris discussed the decision by the Biden administration to rejoin the WHO with the health agency's Director-General Dr. Ghebreyesus.

Harris emphasised that she and Biden believe that the WHO is vital to controlling the spread of COVID-19 and building back better global health and pandemic preparedness, according to a read-out of the call issued by the White House.

"The vice president and the director-general also discussed the resumption of the United States' role in the global public health and humanitarian response to the COVID-19 pandemic," it said.

Islamic State claims deadly and rare twin blasts in Baghdad

Baghdad: The Islamic State claimed responsibility for a rare suicide attack that rocked central Baghdad, killing 32 people and wounding dozens.

The bombing targeted "apostate Shiites," the group said in a statement on an IS-affiliated website late Thursday.

At least 32 people were killed and over 100 people wounded in the blasts on Thursday. Some were in severe condition. According to officials,

the first suicide bomber cried out loudly that he was in the middle of the bustling market, prompting a crowd to gather around him — and that's when he detonated his explosive belt. The second detonated shortly after.

The U.S.-led coalition recently ceased combat activities and is gradually drawing down its troop presence in Iraq, sparking fears of an IS resurgence. **AP**

UN warns of 'serious' rape charges in Ethiopia's Tigray

Nairobi: The UN special representative on sexual violence in conflict says "serious allegations of sexual violence" have emerged in Ethiopia's embattled Tigray region, while women and girls face shortages of rape kits and HIV drugs amid restrictions on humanitarian access.

"There are also disturbing reports of individuals allegedly forced to rape members of

their own family, under threats of imminent violence," Pramila Patten said in a statement released late Thursday.

"Some women have also reportedly been forced by military elements to have sex in exchange for basic commodities, while medical centers have indicated an increase in the demand for emergency contraception and testing for sexually transmitted infections." **AP**

Mongolian PM quits in Covid hospital treatment scandal

Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia): Mongolia's Prime Minister has resigned following a protest over a hospital's treatment of a new mother who tested positive for the coronavirus.

Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh, whose Mongolian People's Party holds a strong majority in the parliament known as the State Great Khural, stepped down Thursday night after accusing President Khaltmaagiin Battulga of the Democratic Party of orchestrating a political crisis.

A small protest broke out in the capital Ulaanbaatar Wednesday after TV footage appeared of a woman who had just given birth being escorted in slippers and a thin robe from the maternity ward to a special wing for COVID-19 patients while holding her newborn. Mongolia closed its borders last January and has held coronavirus cases to just 1,592, although many Mongolians have protested at the economic impact of control measures. **AP**

Russia welcomes US proposal to extend nuclear treaty

Moscow: The Kremlin on Friday welcomed US President Joe Biden's proposal to extend the last remaining nuclear arms control treaty between the two countries, which is set to expire in less than two weeks.

Russian President Vladimir Putin's spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, said that Russia stands for extending the pact and is waiting to see the details of the US proposal.

The White House said Thursday that Biden has proposed to Russia a five-year extension of the New START treaty.

The treaty, signed in 2010 by President Barack Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, limits each country to no more than 1,550 deployed nuclear warheads. It expires on Feb. 5. **AP**

Central African Republic declares state of emergency

Bangui (Central African Republic): Central African Republic has declared a 15-day state of emergency throughout the country as a coalition of armed groups seeks to overthrow the newly re-elected President Faustin-Archange Touadera.

The spokesman for the presidency, Albert Yaloke Mokpeme, made the announcement on Thursday on national radio.

He said the state of emergency applies until February 4. **AP**

Israeli warplanes strike targets in central Syria

Beirut: Israeli warplanes fired several missiles in central Syria early on Friday, Syrian state media reported, without giving word on casualties. S t a t e news agency SANA quoted an unnamed military official as saying the attack took place shortly before dawn when Israeli warplanes flew over neighbouring Lebanon.

Israel has launched hundreds of strikes against Iran-

linked military targets in Syria over the years but rarely acknowledges or discusses such operations. The Syrian military official said the attack was aimed at several targets in and near the central province of Hama.

It added that Syrian air defence units shot down most of the missiles. It was Israel's first strike on Syria since President Joe Biden took office. **AP**

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed that four original sale deeds first sale deed dated 11.06.2008 registered in the office of Sub-Registrar Hapur at Additional Book Number 1, Zild 1387 at pages 30/52 at serial number 4758, second sale deed dated 31.07.2010 registered at Additional Book Number 1, Zild 1994 at pages 393/406 at serial number 6345, third sale deed dated 29.04.2011 registered at Bahi Number 1, Zild 2260 at pages 211/224 at serial number 4035 and fourth sale deed dated 25.04.2012 registered at Bahi Number 1, Zild 2782 at pages 89/104 at serial number 4610 all registered in the office of Sub-Registrar Hapur and all are related with a plot of land number G-2, measuring 92.77 square yards or 77.56 square meters, consisting of khasra numbers 2161 and 2174M, situated at Mohalla Saket Extension, District Hapur, has been misplaced somewhere. The present owner of the land **Shri Gangadas** son of **Shri Shri Chhotolal** resident of 258/49, Shiv Nagar, Garh Road, Hapur, Pargana, Tehsil and District Hapur has applied for a financial facility from Central Bank of India, Hapur Branch, Hapur. Thereafter said **Shri Gangadas** will be mortgage said land in favour of the Bank. If any person/institution have any objection regarding the above mentioned original sale deeds or mortgage in favour of CBI, can place his/its objection through the below mentioned mobile number within seven days from the date of this publication. Beyond this period no objection will be entertained.

Sd/-
(MEENA DIXIT)
Advocate
Mob.No.: 941223251

Date: 20.01.2021

Public Notice

My Clients **Ajit Singh Dhanoa** his wife **Raj Dhanoa R/o DG-2/35-B, Vikas Puri New Delhi-18** has debarred & disowned their daughter **Ashneet Dhanoa** from their movable and immovable property & assets of my clients, due to misbehavior, disobedient & harmful towards my client. My Clients has also severed all relation with her. If anybody deals with her in any manner they do so at their own risk. My Clients shall not be responsible for the same in any manner.

Ramesh Chander (Advocate), C-58, Western Wing, Ta Hazari

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby brought to the notice of the public at large, that Original Allotment letter dated 23.12.2010 issued by Delhi Development Authority related to the Plot No. 09, situated in LSC in Sector B-7, Vasant Kunj, Delhi in name of **M/s Fabindia Overseas Pvt. Ltd.**, had been misplaced & could not found till date. The Public at large is hereby informed that **M/s Fabindia Overseas Pvt. Ltd.**, who is present owner of and have availed certain credit facilities from HDFC Bank Ltd. against security of the aforesaid Property except above mentioned original allotment letter said Property; with the Bank for creation of equitable mortgage. Any person, who comes in knowledge or possession of aforementioned original title document, may please return the same to above mentioned property address or at below mentioned address. Any person or authority dealing with the deed/documents and / or the aforesaid Property and/or deriving any benefit by impersonation or claiming any interest in the aforesaid Property on the basis of said allotment or in his/her name whatsoever, he/she/it shall do so at his/her/its own cost, expense, liability and risk or may also send his/her/their claims in writing to the undersigned along with documentary evidence in support of the said claim.

Sushil Kumar Singh (Advocate)
Office F-10, LGF, Jangpura Extn.,
New Delhi Ph: 011-403-48896.

ICICI Bank

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

PUBLIC NOTICE - TENDER CUM AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET
(See proviso to rule 8(6))
Notice for sale of immovable asset

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Ltd. will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", as per the brief particulars given hereunder.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Co-Borrowers / Guarantors / Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Jyoti (Borrower), Ramesh Kumar Rout (Co-Borrower) LBDL00002301759 LBDL00002554513	House No. N-K-I/ 333, Ground Floor, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh. Area: 274 Sq.ft.	Rs. 18,95,191/- (as on January 13, 2021)	Rs. 9,00,000/- Rs. 90,000/-	February 15, 2021 from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM	February 25, 2021 from 11:30 AM to 02:00 PM

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link-<https://disposalhub.com>) of our auction agency **M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited**. The Mortgagee's notice are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till **February 24, 2021 before 05:00 P.M** else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at **ICICI Bank Limited, Plot No 23, Shal Tower 3rd Floor, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh Delhi-110005**, and thereafter they need to submit their offer through the above mentioned website only on or before **February 24, 2021 before 05:00 P.M** along with scan image of Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. Kindly note, in case prospective bidder(s) are unable to submit their offer through the website then signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at **ICICI Bank Limited, Plot No 23, Shal Tower 3rd Floor, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh Delhi-110005** on or before **February 24, 2021 before 05:00 P.M**. Earnest Money Deposit DD/POL should be from a Nationalized/Scheduled Bank in favour of "ICICI Bank Limited" payable at Delhi.

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact **ICICI Bank Limited on 9372730494/7304914763** or **M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited on 9710029933/9810029926/01244233933**

Please note that Marketing agencies 1. **M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited 2. Augoe Asset Management Pvt Ltd** have also been engaged for facilitating the sale of this property.

The Authorized Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/n4p4s

Date: January 22, 2021
Place: Delhi/ NCR.

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that one male namely **Unknown S/o Unknown R/o Unknown**. Age about 55-60 years, Height about 5'3", Face round, Complexion shallow. Built medium wearing brown colour cap and inner wear, Blue colour pajama and grey colour socks, was found dead at footpath, Asaf Ali Road, Near Bank of Baroda, Hamdard Chowk, Karam Market, Delhi on 17.01.2021. The dead body has been preserved at LHMC mortuary, New Delhi for 72 hours.

In this regard a DD No. 12-A dated 17.01.2021 U/s 174 Cr.P.C. has been lodged at PS Kamla Market, Delhi. Any person having any information or clue about this deceased person may kindly inform to the undersigned at the address or telephone nos. given below.

SHO
PS Kamla Market, Delhi
Ph. 011-23230623, 23233743

DP/617/CD/2021

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that one girl namely **Nisha, D/o: Sh. Ajay Pandit, R/o Village Tahkhandi, Punjabi Mohalla, Okhala, Delhi, Age: 21 years, Height: 4'5", Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Built: Medium, wearing Black colour Jacket, Yellow colour Ghagra and Laddy Chappal in feet, has been missing PF No. 6 around 11:30 Hrs. since 18.01.2021. In this regard a DD No. 24A, dated 19.01.2021 has been registered at P.S. New Delhi Railway Station, Delhi.**

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

Website : <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 24368641
DP/48/Rly/2021

SHO
P.S. New Delhi Railway Station,
New Delhi
Ph.: 011-23363622, 23744073

SEARCH FOR MISSING FEMALE

General public is here by informed that one female **Namely: Sonika** (with her son Nikhil, Age: 3 Years), **W/o Raeksh, R/O A-59, Gali No. 2, A Block, Mukundpur, Part-I, Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi. Age: 25 years, Height: 4'5", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Strong, Wearing: Blue Saree and Red Sweater** has been missing/ kidnapped since 30.12.2020 at 04.00 PM from her house the area of PS. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi.

In this regard a DD No. 31A dated 30.12.2020 has been registered at P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this female but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this female kindly inform to the following.

E-Mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641

SHO
P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi
Ph. 011-27811933, 27811934
DP/714/ON/2021

SEARCH FOR KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one girl namely **Vanshika @ Bulbul, D/o Krishan Gopal Sharma, R/O B-207, near Shiv Mandir, Gokaipur Village, Delhi, Age: Approx 15 years, Height: 4'6", Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Built: Medium, wearing Red & Grey colour Top and Pink colour Sandel in feet, has been kidnapped from her house since 12.09.2018. In this regard a FIR No. 458/18, U/S 363 IPC, dated 12.09.2018 has been registered at P.S. Gokul Puri, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about her please inform undersigned.**

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

SHO
P.S. Gokul Puri, Delhi
DP/498/NE/2021 Ph. No.: 011-22562112, 8750870724

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE (THROUGH E-TENDERING)

Name of work with its location	Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) of 76 Nos. Data Loggers over Delhi Division for three (03) years.
Approximate Cost of work	₹1,72,59,121.00 only
Address of the office	Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer-C, Northern Railway, 3rd Floor, Annex-1, DRM Office, New Delhi-110055
Date & Time for upload the tender/closing of tender	Tender uploading/Closing date & time 17.02.2021 upto 15:00 hrs.
Website Particulars & Notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc.	See the Northern Railway website www.ireps.gov.in & Notice board at S&T branch 3rd Floor, DRM office, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055

No.: 558-Sig-16-M-Tender-AMC-046-2020-21 Dated: 22.01.2021 180/21

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Open E-Tender Notice

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-III, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender for the following work.

Name of Work	Reconditioning of worn out Points and Crossings in the jurisdiction of ADE/N/DN/LS
Approx. Cost of work	Rs.62,23,039.94 (Rupees Sixty Two Lakh Twenty Three thousand Thirty Nine & Ninety Four paisa Only)
Earnest Money to be Deposit	Rs.1,24,500/- (Rupees One Lakh Twenty Four Thousand Five Hundred Only)
Cost of tender document	Rs.0.00/-
Date & Time of submission of tender bid and opening of tender	16.02.2021 @ 15:00 Hrs.
Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in

*The tenderer's must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement system (IREPS) site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for participating in the e-tender system.
*For all terms and conditions please refer tender document.
*No manual offers are acceptable.
*Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only.

No. 128-W/28/06 Tender Notice/NIT/36/2020-21/W-3
Dated : 21.01.2021 169/2021

Serving Customers With A Smile

UJVN Limited

H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com

Letter No: 70
Date: 21.01.2021

Tender Notice

Office of Executive Engineer (M) Ramganga Power Station, UJVN Limited, Kalagah, Distt. Pauri Garhwal invites sealed tender from interested parties. Detail of tenders is given below.

T.N. No. 18/EE(M)/Klg/2020-21

Name of work :- Annual cleaning and gardening of various offices and central store premises at Ramganga Power House Kalagah.

Estimated cost: Rs. 6,12,197/- GST Extra

Date of availability of bid document on website: 22/01/2021
Last date for submission of tender: 12/02/2021 up to 16.00 Hrs.

For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website "www.ujvn.com"

AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (M)

Metro Railway, Kolkata
Kolkata's Pride

E-Procurement Tender Notice No. : 13/20-21 dated 22.01.2021

Principal CMM, Metro Railway, Kolkata, 33/1, J.L. Nehru Road, Kolkata-700071 on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tender for the following items already uploaded in website www.ireps.gov.in Tenderers may visit website www.ireps.gov.in for full details/description/drawing/specification of the tenders and submit their bids online.

Tender No.	Brief Description	Quantity	Tender closing date & time
02215007	Float cum boost dual battery charger for charging 150/250 AH Lead Acid Battery	7 Sets	02.02.2021 14.00 hrs.
02205325	Smart energy meter (A) 240V AC, 10-60A, (B) 3 x 240V AC, 10-100A, (C) 3 x 240V AC 4 wire LTCT, (D) Gateway, (E) Hand End Software, (F) Network Planning of RF Mesh network, (G) AMC for Cloud server	(A) 226 Nos. (B) 54 Nos. (C) 6 Nos. (D) 15 Nos. (E) 286 Nos. (F) 286 Nos. (G) 2860 Yearly	04.02.2021 14.00 hrs.

Principal CMM, Metro Railway/Kolkata
FASTER • SAFER • SMOOTHER • CLEANER

For NBFCs, RBI proposes 4-layer regulatory structure

Mumbai: The Reserve Bank on Friday proposed a four-layered regulatory structure for non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) with progressive increase in intensity of regulation. According to a discussion paper released by the RBI, the NBFCs will be split into four layers -- base, middle, upper and top. The classification of the NBFCs, it said, will be based on host of parameters including size, leverage, interconnectedness, substitutability, complexity and nature of activity, among others. "The regulatory framework envisages a progressive increase in the intensity of regulation," said the RBI's discussion paper on "Revised Regulatory Framework for NBFCs - A Scale-Based Approach". Stakeholders can send

their comments on the paper to the RBI within a month. Over the years, the NBFC sector has undergone considerable evolution. Higher risk appetite of NBFCs has contributed to their size, complexity and interconnectedness, making some of the entities systemically significant, posing potential threat to financial stability. While NBFCs are under RBI's regulation since 1964, the central bank introduced a comprehensive regulatory framework for the systemically important NBFCs in 2006, which was further refined in 2014. Since then, the RBI has been carrying out calibrated modifications to mould the regulations to the changing environment. Accordingly, within the universe of systemically important NBFCs, an

additional identifier has been placed at Rs 5,000 crore, wherein, additional regulations have been made applicable to such large NBFCs. "Unbridled growth aided by less rigorous regulatory framework within an interconnected financial system can sow the seeds of systemic risk. Failure of any large and deeply interconnected NBFC is capable of transmitting shocks in to the entire financial sector and cause disruption even to the operations of the small and mid-sized NBFCs," the RBI said. "Under the circumstances, regulatory framework for NBFCs needs to be reoriented to keep pace with the changing realities," it said, and added a calibrated and graded regulatory framework proportionate to the systemic significance of NBFCs may be best suited. **PTI**

Lower fees structure for investment advisors to be effective from April 1: Sebi

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
Markets regulator Sebi on Friday said the lower fees structure for filing application and registration for individuals and corporates seeking a registered investment advisor status will come into force from April 1. The regulator has issued a corrigendum to its earlier notification issued on January 11, wherein it was mentioned that the new norms on fees would come into force on the date of their publication in the official gazette. In a fresh notification, Sebi said the new fee norms for investment advisers would become effective from April 1, 2021. Under the new norms, individuals and firms (partnership) will have to pay Rs

2,000 while applying for an investment advisor certificate. Earlier, they had to cough up Rs 5,000 as application fee. The application fee for corporates, including Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs), has been brought down to Rs 10,000 from Rs 25,000. At the time of grant of a certificate, individuals and firms will have to shell out a fee of Rs 3,000 and Rs 15,000 by bodies corporate. Earlier, registration fee was Rs 10,000 and Rs 5 lakh for individuals as well as firms and body corporates, respectively. The reduction in fees is expected to help those seeking registration as investment advisers. The move comes after a series of tightening of norms by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) for registered investment advisers.

Road Transport and Highways Min inks pact with IIT, Roorkee

New Delhi: The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways on Friday entered into a pact with Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, to strengthen research and development activities in the road sector. This collaboration of MoRTH with IIT-Roorkee will strengthen R&D (Research and Development) activities in road sector and the Chair professor is expected to provide leadership in conducting and coordinating research, development and teaching in the area of development of highway infrastructure," the ministry said in a statement. The MoU was signed by Indresh Kumar Pandey, Director General-Road Development and Special Secretary, and Manoranjan Parida, Deputy Director and Professor of Civil Engineering, IIT Roorkee.

IN BRIEF

ESSAY COMPETITION HELD TO MARK 5 YR OF 'BETI BACHAO, BETI PADHAI' CAMPAIGN

To celebrate the 5th anniversary of the launch of "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao" campaign, the Office of the District Magistrate, East District, Delhi and District Legal Services Authority (East), jointly organised an Essay Writing Competition in all government schools of East District, Delhi on the topic "WHEN GIRLS DO BETTER, THE WORLD DOES BETTER". A very enthusiastic response was received from the school students, with around 3000 entries pouring in from UP Govt schools across East Delhi. Considering the restrictions placed on physical congregations on account of the raging Covid-19 pandemic, a virtual felicitation ceremony was organized by the Office of District Magistrate (East Delhi) and District Legal Services Association - EAST (DLSA-EAST) on 22.01.2021

SRM TEAM WINS FLIPKART GRID 2.0 ROBOTICS CHALLENGE

Kattankulathur: Four students from SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur have brought honour to their Institution by winning a national level robotics challenge. Team Robotronics consisting of Adrash, Ajit, Rishabh, and Shashwat (Final year B.Tech students from the Departments of Electronics & Communication and Mechanical Engineering) emerged winners among the 500 teams that participated in the national Flipkart Grid 2.0 Robotics Challenge held in January 2021. Their problem statement was Autonomous Stair Climbing Robot.



RAILWAYS TO RESTART E-CATERING SERVICES FOR PASSENGERS

The Indian Railways under the leadership of Hon'ble Minister of Railways and Minister for Commerce and Industry and Consumer Affairs, Food and Distribution Sh. Piyush Goyal has achieved a number of milestones recently in partial fulfillment of the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister for 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' and 'Digital India'. The launch of the new user interface of the internet ticketing website www.irctc.co.in and addition of new real time feature in IRCTC's own payment gateway i-Pay during booking of tickets are among the new initiatives of Railways towards improving the user ticket booking experience on digital platforms.

POWERGRID CONDUCTS TRAINING PROGRAMME

New Delhi: A Training Program on Tower Climbing is being conducted by Government of India Maharatna PSU, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) for technicians of Chhattisgarh State Power Transmission Co. Limited (GSPTCL) at Raipur from 20th-23rd January, 2021 as part of Human Resource Development (HRD) Consultancy services for stakeholders. The training program is being conducted under strict protocol taking care of all COVID-19 related measures.

MN BISWAS TAKES CHARGE OF SAIL RAW MATERIALS DIVISION

MN Biswas joined SAIL Raw Materials Division (RMD) as the Executive Director In-charge recently. Prior to that, he was the Executive Director, Mines & Rowghat, at Bhilai. A Mechanical Engineer, Biswas joined SAIL as Management Trainee (Technical) in 1984. Biswas worked in different mines of SAIL at Bolani, Barsua, Kiriburu, Gua and Bhilai group of mines at various capacities and has seen the SAIL-Mines ecosystem closely. He made his mark by introducing several changes in the mining process like, new concept of Slime Beneficiation, Lean ore screening, and others. He handled the challenging Rowghat projects of SAIL.



Petrol crosses ₹92 mark in Mumbai, diesel at all-time high

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
Petrol price on Friday crossed ₹92 a litre mark in Mumbai, while diesel touched an all-time high after rates were raised for the third time this week.

Petrol and diesel prices were hiked by 25 paise per litre each, according to a price notification from oil marketing companies. This took the petrol price in Delhi to ₹85.45 per litre and ₹92.04 in Mumbai. Diesel rate climbed to ₹75.63 a litre in the national capital - its highest ever. In Mumbai, diesel price too increased to an all-time high of ₹82.40, the price data showed. Petrol and diesel prices were raised by 25 paise per litre each on January 18 and 19.

Fuel prices are now at a record high in the country, prompting cries for a cut in excise duty to ease the burden on the consumers. Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan earlier this week blamed Saudi oil output cut for the surge in oil prices but remained non-committal on tax cuts. Top oil explorer Saudi Arabia has pledged additional voluntary output cuts of 1 million barrels per day in February and March, which has led to price climbing to most since the pandemic broke out. A few months back, we all were discussing about consumption-centric revival, demand-driven revival, and we were supposed to restrict our production cut, and ramp-up (of production) gradually by January.

Vaccine to Vacation: Inoculation drive to pump up airline sector

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
India's aviation sector is set to become a major beneficiary of the massive anti-Covid vaccination programme which has re-ignited the confidence of the travellers.

Market insiders have cited that the commencement of the inoculation drive has raised travellers' optimism, which will not only boost air travel, but also the entire hospitality value chain. Consequently, industry players like ixigo have seen a surge in demand and search queries. "We are already seeing a renewed sense of optimism among the travellers in the wake of the vaccine roll-out. Demand and search queries for travel are slowly increasing, while domestic travel is on the road to a strong recovery," said Rajnish Kumar, Co-founder and CTO, ixigo. "On the international front, we are still at 40 per cent of pre-Covid range in terms of bookings due to the current country restrictions. A widespread and effective dis-

tribution of the vaccine will be critical to get the international travel numbers back to normal," he added. India launched the biggest vaccination drive in the world on January 16. The programme is backed up by the country's comparative advantage of having the largest vaccine manufacturing capacity in the world and a rich experience of mass inoculation drives against polio and measles. "The pick up in leisure as well as business travel is dependent on the improvement in consumer sentiments, which in turn is dependent on the wide availability of a vaccine," said Kinjal Shah, Vice President, ICRA. India's airline industry was heavily battered by the pandemic's onslaught. It is now gearing up to deploy 100 per cent of the pre-Covid capacity. "The rollout of the vaccination programme in India will surely provide confidence for higher mobility, including air travel," said Suman Chowdhury, Chief Analytical Officer at Acuite Ratings & Research.

Sensex crashes 746 pts as profit-taking deepens; posts weekly loss

PTI ■ MUMBAI
Widespread profit-taking hammered stocks for the second straight session on Friday, with the Sensex tanking 746 points and the Nifty crashing below the 14,400-mark.

A day after touching the historic 50,000-level, the Sensex found it tough to sustain itself at higher levels as investors offloaded Reliance Industries ahead of its results, while banking and finance counters also bore the brunt of heavy selling amid lacklustre global cues. The 30-share BSE benchmark tumbled 746.22 points or 1.50 per cent to finish at 48,878.54, posting its largest single-session drop in a month. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty slumped 218.45 points or 1.5 per cent to 14,371.90.

Axis Bank was the biggest laggard among the Sensex constituents, skidding 4.63 per cent, followed by Asian Paints, SBI, IndusInd Bank, ICICI Bank, Bajaj Finance, HDFC and Reliance Industries. On the other hand, Bajaj Auto stole the show by surging 10.45

₹ pares losses to settle marginally higher at 72.97 against \$

Mumbai: The rupee clawed back lost ground towards the flag-end of the session and settled with a marginal 2 paise gain at 72.97 against the US dollar on Friday, supported by easing crude oil prices. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the domestic unit opened lower and traded in the negative territory most part of the session, tracking a massive sell-off in domestic equities.

per cent, a day after it reported a robust 23 per cent jump in profit after tax at Rs 1,556 crore for the three months ended December 2020. Hindustan Unilever, UltraTech Cement, TCS, Bajaj Finserv and Infosys were the other gainers, advancing up to 1.76 per cent.

On a weekly basis, the Sensex slipped 156.13 points or 0.31 per cent, while the Nifty

Yes Bank posts net profit of Rs 151 cr in Q3

New Delhi: Private sector lender Yes Bank on Friday reported a profit of Rs 150.71 crore for the third quarter ended December 2020.

It had posted a record loss of Rs 18,654 crore a year ago due to surge in bad loans. Total income during the quarter under review increased to Rs 6,518.37 crore from Rs 6,268.50 crore in the same period last fiscal, Yes Bank said in a regulatory filing.

shed 61.8 points or 0.42 per cent. "Indian indices tumbled in afternoon trade dragged by weak global markets and selling seen in metal and banking indices. Positive outlook for auto and IT stocks helped them to retain their momentum even during today's correction.

UJVN LIMITED
H.O.: "UJJWAL" Maharan, Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun - 248006
Telephone : 0135-2763808, Fax : 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvnl.com

Letter No.: 77 "e-Tender Notice" Dated: 22.01.2021
SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Office of the (Executive Engineer (Civil), Pashulok Barrage Rishikesh), invites online bids from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:-
NIT No.25/2020-21/EE(C)/Pashulok Barrage:- Protection Work of Power Channel at Bin River to Kaundhya Bridge. **Estimated Cost:-** Rs. 82,44,425.42 Only. **Date of availability of bid document on website:-** From 17:00 hrs of 23 January, 2021. **Last date for submission of bids on website:-** Up to 17:00 hrs of 30 January, 2021.
Full fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal "http://uktenders.gov.in".
Executive Engineer (Civil)
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

FORM NO. URC 2
Advertisement giving notice about registration under Part-I of Chapter XXI of the Act (Pursuant to Section 374 (B) of the Companies Act, 2013 and rule 4(1) of the Companies (Authorised to Register) Rules, 2014)

Notice is hereby given that in pursuance to sub-section (2) of Section 366 to the Companies Act, 2013, an application has been made on 14.01.2021 to the Registrar of Companies that M/S. Auxo Technologies, a partnership firm may be registered under Part I of Chapter XXI of the Companies Act, 2013, as a Company Limited by Shares and Registrar of Companies have made availability of the name i.e. Auxo Technologies Private Limited.

The principal objects of the Company are as follows: To carry on the business of Media Solution, audio-visual setup consultancy, sound and lightning solutions, infrastructure cabling and connecting needs, ISP solutions and other allied activities. A copy of the draft Memorandum and the Articles of Association of the proposed company may be inspected at the office at D-15/120, Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi, Pin Code 110085.

Notice is hereby given that any person objecting to this application may communicate their objection in writing to the Central Registration Centre (CRC), Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), Plot No. 5, 7, 8, Sector 5, IIT Mansarovar, District Gurugram (Haryana), Pin Code 122050, within Twenty one days from the date of the publication of this notice, with a copy to M/S. Auxo Technologies at its office i.e. D-15/120, Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi, Pin Code 110085.

Rinkal Luthra
Applicant
Date: 19.01.2021

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

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (E&M)-II
WAZIRABAD WATER WORKS, TIMARPUR, DELHI-110054

PRESS NIT No- 14 (2020-21)/EE(E&M)-II

SIT No.	Name of Work	Estimate Cost	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Date of release of Tender in e-procurement solution	Last date/Time receipt of Tender through e-procurement solution
1.	Removal of sand/sludge Tilla in upstream of River Yamuna form Weir side gate no 13 to 17 at Yamuna river Barrage in front of Sangam raw water pump house at Wazirabad water works	Job Work	62000/-	Tender Id: 2021_DJB_199094_1 Publish Date: 22-Jan-2021-05:00 PM onward	05-Feb-2021 upto 12:15 PM
2.	Procurement of Turn Table for Clariflocculator at 3rd 40 MGD plant Wazirabad Water Works Make: HOO	Job Work	64500/-	Tender Id: 2021_DJB_199094_2 Publish Date: 22-Jan-2021-05:00 PM onward	05-Feb-2021 upto 12:15 PM

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

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) Sd/-
Advt. No. J.S.V. 336 (2020-21) Executive Engineer (E&M)-II

SEARCH FOR MISSING PERSON


Nasir
General public is here by informed that this person namely Nasir S/o Nabi Hasan F/o H.No. D-1/290, Dayalpur Khajuri Khas, Delhi **Age : 20 years, Height : 5'8", Build : Medium, Complexion : Sallow, Face : Long, wearing blue colour T-shirt and jeans, has been missing since 28.05.2016 from his house. In this regard DD No. 7-A dated 02.06.2016 has been lodged at P.S. Khajuri Khas, Delhi.**
Any person having any information or clue about this missing person 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. Khajuri Khas, Delhi
Tel. No. : 011-22962735,
22966851
DP/498/NE/21

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED GIRL


KAJAL
General public is hereby informed that this girl namely Kajal D/o Krishan Lal R/o H.No. 10/11, Veer Bazar Road, Shyam Colony, Budh Vihar, Phase-2, Delhi **Age : 16 years, Height : 138 cm., Complexion : Wheatish, Face : Round, wearing red colour top, blue colour payama and ladies jutti in feet, has been missing/ kidnapped since 01.01.2021. In this regard FIR No. 01/21 dated 01.01.2021 has been registered at P.S. Budh Vihar, Delhi.**
Any person having any information or clue about this missing/kidnapped girl 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. Budh Vihar, Delhi
Ph. : 011-27052772, 27052773
DP/607/RD/20

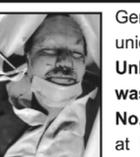
PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSONS
(See Section 82 Cr.PC)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that (1) Sharukh S/o Sabir R/o H. No. A-680, Phase-2, Metro Vihar, Holambi Kalan, Delhi, (2) Nishar S/o Riyaz R/o H. No. A-2770, Phase-2, Metro Vihar, Holambi Kakan, Delhi have committed (or are suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 583/2020 u/s 457/380/411/34 IPC, P.S. Narela Indl Area, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused persons (1) Sharukh (2) Nashir cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused persons (1) Sharukh (2) Nashir have absconded (or are concealing themselves to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused persons (1) Sharukh (2) Nashir of FIR No. 583/2020 u/s 457/380/411/34 IPC, P.S. Narela Indl Area, Delhi are required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 22.03.2021.

By Order,
Ms. Richa Sharma
Metropolitan Magistrate
Room No. 06, Rohini Court, Delhi
DP/734/ON/2021

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION


General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male namely **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, was found on Unknown. In this regard DD No. 42A dated 14.01.2021 has been lodged at Police Station, Narela Industrial Area, Delhi. Identification of unidentified dead body of male is as under:**
Name: Unknown, Age: 65 Years, Height: 5'8", Face: Round, Complexion: Wheatish, Hair: Black and White, Wearing: White Checkdar Shirt and Grey Colour Pajama, Blue Pant Checkdar.
If anyone have any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be inform undersigned.
SHO
Police Station, Narela Industrial Area, Delhi
DP/756/ON/2021 Ph.: 011-27787592, 7065036324

SEARCH FOR MISSING FEMALE


Anupa Lakra
General public is here by informed that this female namely Anupa Lakra D/o Kuldeep Lakra R/o Vill. Sirmunda, Kendu Toli, P.S. Kurdeg, Distt. Simdega, Jharkhand **Age : 21 years, Height : 5', Face : Oval, Complexion: Fair, Build : Normal, wearing black colour jacket, black colour jeans and white colour shoes in feet, has been missing since 16.01.2021 from Sulabh Sauchalaya, Gate No. 01, Sarojini Nagar Market, New Delhi. In this regard DD No. 48-A dated 16.01.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Sarojini Nagar, New Delhi.**
Any person having any information or clue about this missing female 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. Sarojini Nagar, New Delhi
Tel. No. : 011-26882346,
24671281, 7065036320
DP/477/SW/21

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION


KAMLESH
General public is hereby informed that one male namely Kamlesh Yadav, S/o Vishanath Rai, R/o Kali Mata Mandir, Sector-3 Petrol Pump, Delhi (Unknown). Age about 52 years, height 5'8", Shallow complexion, Medium built, Round face hair black and white wearing blue check shirt and pajama has been found dead at Bhagwan Mahavir Hospital, Pitam Pura, Delhi on 11.01.2021.
In this regard a DD No. 40-A, dated 11.01.2021 has been lodged at PS South Rohini, Delhi.
The dead body has been preserved in mortuary of Dr. BSA Hospital, Rohini Delhi.
Any person having any information or clue about this deceased may kindly inform to the following.
S.H.O., PS South Rohini, Delhi.
Ph.: 011-27512189, 27510515
DP/623/RD/2021

SEARCH FOR KIDNAPPED


Anita
General public is here by informed that this girl (depicted in the photo) namely: **Anita D/o Santosh Kumar R/o H. No. C-2/898, Sec-27, Rohini, Delhi, has been missing/kidnapped since 21.12.2020. In this regard DD No. 612 dated 21.12.2020 P.S. Shahabad Dairy, Delhi has been lodged. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far.**
Her physical description is as under:-
Sex: Female, Age: 16 years Height: 170 Cm., Complexion: Shallow Face: Round, Built: Thin, Wearing: Black Colour Suit and Black Colour Pyjama.
Any person is having information or clue about this missing/kidnapped girl may kindly inform to the following:-
SHO P.S. Shahbad Dairy, Delhi
Ph. No.: 011-27821047
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax No.: 011-24368639
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641
DP/728/ON/2021

WANTED


General public is hereby informed that in the given photograph the person who was riding a bike had hit a child from his bike and ran away from the incident. Due to this child has got injuries, In this regard a case FIR No. 1028/2020 dated 16.12.2020 U/s 279/337 IPC has been registered at PS Khyala, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out this person, but no clue has come to light so far.
If anyone has any kind of information about it, may inform immediately I.O. ASI Vijay (Mobile No.: 9625894747) or in the police station Khyala on the numbers given below:-
SHO PS Khyala, Delhi
DP/327/WD/2021 Ph. 011-25937374, 8750871132

SHORT CIRCUITS



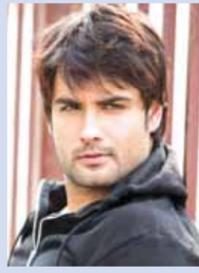
PRIYANKA CHOPRA
I don't put myself in a box. I am very organic with what I feel. I am doing a comedy with Mindy Kaling, which is probably one of the first few romantic comedies in Hollywood that you will see with all-South Asian star cast. So that's something very exciting. It was my quest.



DALER MEHNDI
It is important to raise one's voice and many do so, too. It is a good thing. But a solution for the ongoing farmers protest can only be given by leaders and not necessarily by celebrity appearances. I pray that the farmers and the government come out with a solution.



NEERAJ PANDEY
We are starting off with a unique *Special Ops 1.5*, which is neither a prequel nor a sequel and with this the audience will be witnessing the backstory of the main protagonist Himmat Singh. It will be narrated across three episodes approximately an hour long each.



VIVIAN DSEENA
I have learnt to never underestimate any human being in this industry or this world. Because there are a lot of people who never believed in me once upon a time and now when they met me, they said they regret for not believing in me back then. So you should not underestimate anyone.

NEIL PATRICK HARRIS
I think there's something sexy about casting a straight actor to play a gay role, if they're willing to invest a lot into it. There's a nervousness that comes from the newness of it all. To declare that you'd never do that, you might miss opportunities.



JUKEBOX 45 MINUTES

A HARMONIOUS SWITCH

Indie singer, guitarist and songwriter, ARNAV MAGOO tells AYUSHI SHARMA that his Western musical preferences show in his lyrics, ideas and instrumentation

If Arnav Magoo had stuck to the original plan, he would have been crunching numbers at an asset management company. But somewhere along the line, he realised that rather than calculations it was chords that strung a tune in his heart. Though, the switch meant life was not a cakewalk but he did figure out different ways of dealing with the hurdles that come his way. The key to keep going, he believes, is always in our pockets. The little challenges in life that came his way made him stronger and helped him to grow.

Arnav began playing the guitar at the age of 13 and started experimenting with his voice during his time at the New York University. His background in Western music imparts a unique flavour to Hindi songs. Arnav has released two songs so far — *It's Hard Staying Apart* (English) and the latest, *Aa Chalein Hum Kahin* (Hindi). Read on to know more. Excerpts of the interview:

How did you realise that music is your ultimate calling?

I have always been extremely passionate about music and knew that it would be a significant part of my life. I was introduced to bands like Pink Floyd, The Beatles and Queen by my father when I was about 13. I can still recall being particularly mesmerised by the guitarwork and the sound in general. Shortly after I picked up the guitar, I would play for hours every day and quickly became deeply involved. Over the years, it was almost like a companion through every phase. While in the US, it transitioned from being a passion to a dream career. I was dedicating a lot of time and energy to it, collaborating with local musicians and playing in bands ranging from folk to heavy metal, however, I found my solo work quite fulfilling. Over time, my inclination towards it grew and I decided to move back to India and do it more seriously.

Was the switch from finance to music difficult?

It was not an easy decision. However, a career in the world of high finance even-



tually lost out to my devotion towards music. It seemed like the right thing to do. It has been very exciting and rewarding so far. The transition has been quite smooth. I had a great time writing and recording the songs. I have released two so far — *Aa Chalein Hum Kahin* and *It's Hard Staying Apart* and they've got a great response. I am also exploring ideas, styles and planning future projects, so there are a lot of things to look forward to.

How did you conceptualise *Aa Chalein Hum Kahin*?

The idea for this song occurred to me while observing the city from my balcony on the 15th floor. The cars and the people followed the same routine and patterns every day. Things moved at a fast pace and little changed. To me that image felt like a perfect depiction of the situation I was in. All of us at one time or the other feel that we are stuck in a rut, we often feel like a face in the crowd and find ourselves going through the motions without any real sense of purpose. I wrote the song about the desire to move to a new town, one that offers wonder, surprises and meaning. It is about grav-

itating towards what naturally comes to you, finding your identity and letting go of society's expectations.

Since you were working in an asset management company, how were you exposed to different genres of music in the US?

During my time at New York University and subsequently while working, I was consuming and playing a lot of music. There was a lot of cultural influence as well because I went to a lot of concerts and musicals both big and small, got to see

a lot of acts I grew up listening to, which got me closer to the art form. Also, I spent my formative years in New York City and it was the place where I left my comfortable college lifestyle behind and entered the 'real world', which changed my perspective drastically. It gave me a lot of things to think about and express.

Does Western music influence you?

Yes, I am actually influenced by Western music because I grew up listening to a lot of it. My musical preferences derive from several Western genres. I think

it shows in the kind of lyrics I write, the ideas and the instrumentation. In fact, even my Hindi songs do have a Western feel to them in terms of the atmosphere and the composition, which I have been told lends them an interesting touch.

What were your major learnings?

I am mostly self-taught, so I picked up the guitar through online means and played it regularly. I also read a lot about the theory and culture surrounding music even in my free time because I think it's a very fascinating subject. There are a lot of possibilities to it and there's always more to dig into and figure out. I think the greatest source of learning is just listening to a lot of music because your taste and your musical database plays a big role in the kind of music you end up writing. Every time you listen to a song, it influences you in some way on a subconscious level.

What has been your creative process as a singer?

I usually build a concept in my head and write the music first. And when I have something going, I think about the ideas for lyrics. It's a bit different from what I hear from a lot of people but I think it's different for everyone. My writing process is quite customised and based on how I listen to music. Once I have a basic version of the song with me, I usually play it a few times, see how I feel about it a few days later and if it still means something to me or makes me feel a certain way, I go with it.

Your biggest inspiration?

I have a variety of inspirations and influences, some artists I am listening to a lot currently are The Beatles, Dire Straits (I absolutely love their guitarwork), Simon & Garfunkel. I also love the sound of Coldplay, Radiohead and Kings of Leon. Among the Indian musicians, I look up to AR Rahman and RD Burman. I usually have phases with artists where in I explore them and go through their discographies thoroughly.



involved into Indic culture than they realised the importance of the pillar. The pillar had become a temple of sorts for a local 'Baba' (holy man) and locals had venerated the pillar, not quite knowing of its historical importance yet that respect ensured that the pillar was not destroyed. That and, possibly, the fact that Madhya Pradesh is not as densely populated as the plains and given its riverside location the pillar was particularly venerated by fishermen. The pillar and the Baba, which is why locals call it the 'Baba Khamba' (Holy Man Pillar), survived and the Baba performed an annual exorcism on a nearby tamarind tree by driving in a nail to predict how the coming year would be. The Baba also agreed to shift from the site and the pillar was largely restored although the annual exorcism ritual still takes place.

What is fascinating is that the pillar is just so incongruous where it lies. There are other broken bits, maybe from other pillars or ancient monuments scattered around the park. And as I walked in, the guard hired by Madhya Pradesh Tourism was about to lock up but he was friendly so he let me in and explained a bit about the pillar and the tree to us. He shared that thanks to the pandemic, the previous year wasn't a good year, maybe 10-20 tourists visited on a regular day, halting off at this pillar on their way between Sanchi and the Udaygiri Caves or some other historical site in this region as central Madhya Pradesh is literally littered with tens of such amazing sites.

This is also a reminder that there is history, sometimes, as interesting as this one. While we visit ancient sites across the world, we must make it a point to recognise our own history like this pillar. We could visit it, all thanks to Hyundai's Great India Drive that lets us explore this great nation.

Sitting on a wheelchair is challenging: Amit



Actor Amit Sadh says sitting on a wheelchair for his role in the web series *Jeet Ki Zid* made him realise the struggle of people who live with such a reality in life.

"Sitting on a wheelchair is no less of a challenge. Being restricted to a chair and having no sense of walking free, is something I could've never imagined. You almost become either invisible or way too visible to the sympathetic eyes," Amit said.

"I cannot imagine the pain people might be going through, but for me sticking to a wheelchair for all that while really made me think of how people struggle around in those. My respect for them has escalated," he added.

The series *Jeet Ki Zid* follows the true story of Special Forces officer Major Deep Singh who was left paralysed waist below during the Kargil War, but his relentless attitude helped him bounce back in life. Amit Sadh is cast as the protagonist while Amrita Puri plays his wife.

Heliodorus' Pillar at Vidisha

The 2,000-year-old column documents an important chapter in the history of Takshashila By KUSHAN MITRA

The town of Vidisha in Madhya Pradesh is most famous for being 'Mamaji's Home' — Mamaji being Shivraj Singh Chauhan, the Chief Minister of the State. Even in a relatively lower population density area, the alleys of Vidisha are narrow and once inside, one would not know whether one is in Madhya Pradesh or a city in the Gangetic plains. Manoeuvring a car inside these crowded streets requires not just the immense skill that a lifetime of driving on narrow Indian streets brings one, but also a yogic sense of patience and calm to stop worrying about handcars, cyclists, scooters or even other cars bumping and grinding against one's own. On this front, the all-new Hyundai i20 that we were driving was a fabulous vehicle.

The reason I was stuck in Vidisha's narrow alleyways was because I wanted to visit the legendary 'Khamba Baba'. As you



cross the Betwa river, on a narrow but modern bridge, to leave the town of Vidisha, having been guided through its *anaj mandi* (grain market), you reach some small hutments, buildings rather than slums, but not necessarily a middle-income area if the ubiquitous cow-dung patties are any indication. There, in the middle of all this, is a small park besides the river. A park with a pillar, that does not seem extraordinary at first.

So what is this pillar all about? For one, it is over 2,000-year-old and it celebrates the conversion of Heliodorus, the Ambassador for the Kingdom of Takshashila, one of the many Indo-Greek kingdoms mainly

centred around the region that we know as (undivided) Punjab today. These kingdoms were left behind in the midst of Alexander, The Great's final eastern conquests. Many of his generals, officers and men remained behind, and divided up the territories after his death. I should know all this, because being blessed with the name Kushan, I am named after the ruler of the largest and most successful of the Indo-Greek kingdoms.

Takshashila's King Anticlidus had sent Heliodorus to the court of King Bhagabhadra of Vidisha and upon his arrival, according to the deciphered Brahmi script on the pillar, Heliodorus became a



worshipper of Vishnu. Of course, one should remember that in times past, there was much more religious fluidity than today, particularly given that most polytheistic religions had more similarities than differences.

According to the translation of the Brahmi script on the pil-

lar, it reads: *This Garuda column of Vasudeva (Vishnu), the god of gods, was erected here by Heliodorus, a worshipper of Vishnu, the son of Dion and an inhabitant of Taxila who came as Greek ambassador from the Great King Antialkidas to King Kasiputra Bhagabhadra, the Savior, then reigning prosperously in the fourteenth year of his kingship. Three important precepts when practiced lead to heaven: self-restraint, charity, conscientiousness.*

What is truly amazing about this pillar is that it survived. There must have been hundreds of such pillars across India. Maybe in ancient times, pillars were raised just like foreign dignitaries plant trees nowadays. When it was 'rediscovered' by British archaeologists in the late 1800s, the importance of the pillar was first ignored. It was only as British archaeologists got more

CONVERSATION 60 MINUTES

A KIND SOUL

Actor ANNE HATHAWAY shares that filmmaker NANCY MEYERS is a really warm person who will get down on the floor with you and give you the support you need.
By TEAM VIVA

What was it about *The Intern* that made you want to be a part of it?

Honestly, my in-laws. I was spending some time with them over the holidays and we wanted to go to the movies together but we couldn't find one good film that spoke to all of us. I can recall thinking 'Oh God! This is so sad that we can't find a single film that we can see together'. Then I started thinking of a few hits from the 90s such as all the Cameron Crowe's films... I was like where are such films gone... Literally three days later, this script showed up. So, I said yes to it because I thought it's a film that I can sit and watch with my family. The story fascinated me and it's absolutely a treat to watch.

The director Nancy Meyers is really good at writing and her characters always have a good arc. Tell us about your character, Jules Ostin?

I think one of the best things Nancy does with this film is that she manages to grab some issues that we haven't been talking about. When I read the script, it was a conversation I wanted to be at, the discussion that I wanted to be a part of. The film revolves around my character, of course, and a seventy-year-old widower, Ben Whittaker, (played by Robert De Niro), who has discovered that retirement has become too boring for him. Seizing an opportunity to get back in the game, he becomes a senior intern at an online fashion site, founded and run by Jules Ostin (my character). I loved how Nancy didn't make Jules a tough-cold, unapproachable boss. Although it has been five years, I love reliving the character because I learnt a lot from her. Jules has so many wonderful traits and she just happens to be in a moment where she is overwhelmed and Ben comes in and helps her navigate that



moment, but he doesn't navigate for her, she navigates for herself.

Your chemistry with Robert De Niro looks great. How was it working with him?

I had a lovely time working with him. So much of the chemistry was in the writing. When you take on a job, in the beginning, you don't always know your co-actor well. But by the end of the film's shooting, you literally become their best friends. I can still recall an amazing moment. When we were filming the Facebook scene, which is pretty long, we both actually forgot that we were acting. The process became so nat-

ural with him.

You haven't worked with Nancy. What is she like as a director on set?

When I think about Nancy, I think about two scenes. One, where I needed to say a line the way she wanted... But it wasn't coming out her way, so we had to shoot that scene a couple of times until I got it right and Nancy was satisfied. And second, we just came back from lunch one day and we got late. There was something that triggered my bad memory and I got so emotional. I told her that I needed a few minutes to feel okay. So I just sat down on the floor and all of a sudden, I looked up and Nancy was sitting on the floor with me. She had so much pressure from the team but she made sure I was feeling okay. She said, 'take your time, let's just talk'. So, she is both the things. She is the person who will push you to get the best out of you and will make you say the line until you get it right. She is really a warm person who will get down on the floor with you and give you the support you need. A kind soul she is. She's also the most spectacular writer and makes films that I completely adore.

(The film premieres on Sony PIX on January 31 at 9 pm.)

Films should generate dialogue: Ayushmann



The poster boy of content cinema, Ayushmann Khurrana, opens up about his definition of what a big film is. "I have never chosen a film basis its budget, scale or mounting. For me, these aren't the only important factors for a film to be perceived as big. I have only chosen films basis the bigness and uniqueness of its content. For me, a big film should trigger conversations on a national level and pull people into discussing issues that concern them," says the actor.

For Ayushmann, a big film should generate the right conversations for people to engage with. He says, "A big film should make us ponder, raise important questions and offer solutions to things that matter to people and to society. I have always seen bigness through this lens and I'm happy with how I have selected my films because I have a personal ambition to do the best films that my industry is producing."

As an entertainer, the actor relates to films that are fresh, clutter-breaking and at the same time highly entertaining. He says, "Through my films, I would like to have a conversation about topics that are taboo, that people are not comfortable addressing despite it being important and are a little off-centre. Honestly, I relate to these subjects much more because they are unique, multi-layered and offer something fresh to audiences."

STUDIO CHAT 15 MINUTES

Proud to see response to BAFTA: Rahman

Oscar and Grammy-winning Indian composer AR Rahman is proud to see the response to the BAFTA Breakthrough initiative in India, and says he wants to encourage more individuals from across film, games and television to get involved in the project.

It was announced that British Academy of

Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) has extended the deadline for submission of applications for BAFTA Breakthrough India by two weeks, from January 25 to February 8.

"I am extremely proud to see the response that BAFTA Breakthrough India has received from across the country. We have received applications

from across the nation, proving that talent can be found in all corners of India," said Rahman, who has been roped in as ambassador of the initiative in India.

"We are so pleased with the uptake and I am delighted to see BAFTA extend the deadline to February 8. I encourage talented individuals from across film, games and

television to get involved and submit their application for what could be a life changing experience," he added.

The exercise, known as BAFTA Breakthrough initiative, is part of the Academy's year-round effort to support new talent, operating alongside their Awards ceremonies, and is supported by Netflix.



HIMALAYA FOOD INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
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EXTRACT OF UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 2020

S. No.	Particulars	Amount Rs. in Lacs		
		Quarter Ended 31.12.2020 (Unaudited)	Nine Months Ended 31.12.2020 (Unaudited)	Quarter Ended 31.12.2019 (Unaudited)
1.	Total Income from Operations	1607.45	3981.45	2277.06
2.	Net Profit for the period (before tax & exceptional items)	73.59	-156.41	271.11
3.	Net Profit for the period before Tax (after exceptional items)	73.59	-156.41	271.11
4.	Net Profit for the period after Tax (after exceptional items)	73.59	-156.41	271.11
5.	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	73.59	-156.41	271.11
6.	Paid up Equity Share Capital	5787.29	5787.29	5787.29
7.	Face Value of Rs. 10/- per share			
8.	Earnings Per Share	0.13	-0.27	0.47
9.	Basic in Rs.	0.13	-0.27	0.47
10.	Diluted in Rs.			

Notes:-
1. Operating expenses include raw material consumed, packing, labour, power & fuel.
2. G & SA (General, Sales & Admin Exp of India & USA) Administrative, selling & distribution expenses & repair.
3. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosures Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full formats of the Quarterly Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange - BSE Limited (www.bseindia.com) and the Company Website (www.himalayafoodcompany.com).

By Order of the Board
For HIMALAYA FOOD INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
Man Mohan Malik
Managing Director

DATED: 21.01.2021
PLACE: Paonta Sahib

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that one female **Namely: Haseena Khatun, D/o Saheb Aalam Ansari, R/o Village Vaakhovrat, Post Nechua jalapur, P.S. kuchaykot, Dist. Gopalganj (Bihar)** has been missing from since **18.01.2021** at 2.40 pm from Platform No. 6, Old Delhi Railway Station at 04.00 am. In this regard a case vide **DD No. 16A dated 20.01.2021** has been registered at P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi. The description of the missing/ kidnapped female is as under: **Age:** Approx 18-19 years, **Sex:** Female, **Height:** 5'4", **Face:** Round, **Built:** Thin, **Complexion:** Fair, **Wearing:** Black & white printed gown, light blue and white colour salwar, black & white colour printed dupatta and black colour sandal in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the female but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this female kindly inform to the following.

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail Id - ci@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 **SHO**
Fax No. 011-24368639 **PS Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi**
DP/50/RLY/2021 **Ph.: 011-23961522, 8750871302**

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that one person **Namely: Dipak Kumar Haldar, S/o: Dhiraj Kumar Haldar, R/o: 48, Prasanna Chatterjee Road, Sankatapally, Ghola Bazar, Sodepur, Kolkata West Bengal & MIG J-3, Niva Park, Phase-1, Brahmpur, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal** who was serving as an Assistant Section Officer (Govt. Employee) in CPWD Office, Niramn Bhawan, New Delhi and stayed in rented room at Shivam Guest House, 4400, Katra Rai Jee, Main Bazar, Paharganj, New Delhi, **Age: 57 Years, Height: 5'7", Complexion: Fair, Built: Medium, Face: Round, Hair: Black and White, Wearing: Blue Jacket and Black Pant** has been missing/kidnapped since 20.02.2020 from the Dr. RML Hospital, New Delhi. In this regard **DD No. 7-A, Dated 26.02.2020**, has been lodged at **P.S. North Avenue, New Delhi** and later on **FIR No. 42/20, Dated 20.09.2020, U/s 365 IPC, P.S. North Avenue, New Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing/ kidnapped person but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing/kidnapped person please inform the undersigned.

Web-site : <http://cbi.nic.in> **SHO**
E-Mail Id: ci@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-23011334 **PS. North Avenue, New Delhi**
DP/192/NDD/2021 **Ph.: 011-23093040, 23093294**

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

See Section 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Vikas Kumar R/o H No. 330, Neb Sarai Village, Near Oil Mile Delhi 110068** has Committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 0020/2019, U/s 174A** has been registered at **P.S. Connaught Place, New Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Vikas Kumar** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Vikas Kumar** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Vikas Kumar of FIR No. 0020/2019, U/s 174A** has been registered at **P.S. Connaught Place, New Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **04.03.2021**.

By order
Mr. Udbhav Kumar Jain
Metropolitan Magistrate
DP/197/NDD/2021 **Patalia House Courts, New Delhi**

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that a person **Namely: Sumit Kumar, S/o Mahesh Kumar, R/o 22/240, Trilok Puri, Delhi, Age: 21 years, Built: Thin, Height: 4'10", Complexion: Fair, Face: Oval, Wearing: Brown Colour Jacket, White Colour Pant and Black shoes in his Feet** has been missing from his home since **17.01.2021** at **7.30 pm**. In this regard a vide **DD No. 02A dated 18.01.2021** has been registered at **P.S. Mayur Vihar, Delhi**.

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

E-mail : ci@cbi.gov.in **SHO**
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639 **P.S. Mayur Vihar, Delhi**
DP/344/ED/2021 **Ph. : 011-22711048/ 8750870606**

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a female (depicted in the photo), **Namely : Neelu Prabha D/o : Sh. Chhote Lal R/o : Vill. Bhahna, P.S. Bela, Distt. Oraiya, UP** has been Missing from H. No. F-17, Panchmukhi Lal Kuan, Pul Prahlad Pur, Delhi since 03.11.2018. In this regard a case vide **DD No. 13A dated 10.11.2018** has been lodged at **PS Pul Prahlad Pur, Delhi**. Her physical description is as under:-
Age: 45 Years, Height: 168 CMS, Complexion: Fair, Built: Normal, Face

: Round, Identification : Abnormal mind, Wearing : White colour kurta and salwar.
Any person is having any information/clue about this missing female, may inform **SHO, Pul Prahlad Pur, Delhi** at E-mail : **ci@cbi.gov.in** or website: **<http://cbi.nic.in>**

Phone: 011-24368638, 24368641 **SHO**
Fax No. 011-24368639 **P.S. Pul Prahlad Pur, Delhi**
South-East Distt., Delhi
DP/331/SE/2020 **Ph. No. 011-26366800, 26366801, 26366802**

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that a person **Namely Md. Izharul S/o Md. Islam R/o H. No. D-1264, J.J. Colony Bawana, Delhi, Age: 26 years, Built: Medium, Height: 6', Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Wearing: Blue Colour jeans and Purple Jacket and Hawai Chappal in his Feet** has been missing from home since **08.01.2021**. In this regard a vide **DD No. 66A dated 09.01.2021** has been registered at **P.S. Narela Industrial Area, Outer North, Delhi**.

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

E-mail : ci@cbi.gov.in **SHO**
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 **P.S. Narela Industrial Area,**
Fax : 011-24368639 **Outer North Delhi**
DP/733/ON/2021 **Ph. :011-27280435/ 7065036323**

SEARCH FOR KIDNAPPED GIRLS

General Public is hereby informed that two girls (depicted in the photo) **Namely (1) Nisha @ Hunno and (2) Saniya D/o Late Samsuddin R/o H. No.1080, Gali No.36, Jafrabad, Delhi** have been reported kidnapped since **28.12.2016** from their residence vide **FIR No.490/16 Dated 29.12.2016 u/s 363 IPC** registered at Police Station Jafrabad, Delhi. Their physical description is as under:-
Namely Nisha- Aged: about 16 years 10 Months, Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 5', Face: Round, Built: Normal, Clothing: Unknown.
Namely Saniya- Aged: about 8 years, Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 4'1", Face: Round, Built: Normal, Clothing: Unknown.
Any person having any information/Clue about these kidnapped two girls, may inform **SHO, Jafrabad, Delhi** at E-mail : **ci@cbi.gov.in** or website : **<http://cbi.nic.in>**

Tele No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641 **Sd/-**
FAX No. : 011-24368639 **SHO, Jafrabad, Delhi**
DP/516/NE/2021 **Tel.: 011-22560191, 22560192**

Arm twisting Aussies was the plan

Belief of sticking to five bowlers worked for us, says Arun

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian team management started preparing for Australian tour way before it actually began and the plan laid out by head coach Ravi Shastri fell exactly into place during the gruelling four-match series Down Under. India won the series 2-1 after beating hosts at 'Fortress Gabba' by three wickets on the final day of the tour to retain the Border-Gavaskar trophy which they won on the Australian turf for first time during the 2018-19 series.

As the country was slowly returning to normalcy after the lockdown, India's coaching staff — under the leadership of head coach Ravi Shastri had come up with a plan July onwards to tackle Tim Paine's men during the year-end series.

The idea was to bowl a straight line and make the Australian batsmen struggle on the leg side. Months later, after India's win, the team's bowling coach Bharat Arun was happy that their planning and hard work had paid off.

"Ravi called me sometime in July and we were discussing the Australia tour how we needed to take the off side out of the Australians. We had our own analysis and we felt most of the runs Smith, Labuschagne and most of the Aussie batsmen scored, were from the cut and pull on the off side," the 58-year-old said



India head coach Ravi Shastri, right, and bowling coach Bharat Arun talk to Mohammed Siraj and Shardul Thakur ahead of play on the final day of the fourth Test between India and Australia at the Gabba in Brisbane on Tuesday

on Friday during online media interaction.

"We took cue from the New Zealand attack. When they bowled to Smith, they just attacked his body and he felt very uncomfortable," Arun added.

"Shastri called and said I want you to make a plan where we can eliminate their offside. We thought about it and decided that we will attack more on the straighter lines

and have an on side field. It becomes very difficult for the batsman to consistently clear the on side field. That worked for us. We discussed it with Virat, he bought the theory. We used the same thing in Adelaide and then Ajinkya was magnificent from Melbourne. The bowlers adjusted to that beautifully," Arun said.

The Indian team faced many injury challenges during the four-

match contest and Bharat lauded Shastri for having the foresight to retain a few of the limited-overs specialists like Shardul Thakur, Washington Sundar and T Natarajan for the Tests. With India hit by a barrage of injuries during the series, all three ended up playing the Brisbane Test and made useful contributions.

"The Australian tour is a big challenge. Any cricketer who has

toured Australia would know that. It's probably one of the most challenging tours. I think in the Covid times, it was a good move by Ravi Shastri to hold back all the net bowlers as well. After the ODI series, most of them were supposed to go back, but somehow, we thought that in case anything happens to a player, it will be impossible for anyone to come because of restrictions. We said we will manage with everyone and since they were with us for long, it became possible for them to understand what was demanded of them to be successful in Australia," he said.

Even though Sundar and Shardul were retained as net bowlers, the support staff made sure that the two also got to bat in the nets. As it turned out, the duo stitched a 123-run stand for the seventh wicket in the first innings of the Gabba Test that allowed India to fight back in the game.

"Washington, though he was a net bowler, used to bat every day for half an hour. We needed to spend extra hours in the net but we needed to give each and everyone the attention. In the end it paid off," Arun said.

Except for the day-night pink ball Test at Adelaide, India played five specialist bowlers, which has been the norm overseas under Virat Kohli's captaincy.

"...On most occasions, we play five bowlers abroad because to bowl out a team in conditions

abroad demands a lot out of just four bowlers. It's a huge task," he said.

The thought of playing an extra batsman did creep in briefly after the Adelaide debacle but the team stuck to its belief.

"The guiding principle of this team is to be fearless and honest. We don't fear losing games. They teach us a lot of lessons.

"In the last Test there were discussions about playing an extra batsman but we felt that it would have been a negative move and all of us felt the five-bowler theory has worked for us. We knew Washington Sundar is more than a capable bat," said Arun.

The injuries were a setback but at the same time, they did expose India's solid bench strength in the bowling department. Whoever was given an opportunity rose to the occasion.

"If you want India to be doing well sustainably, you need a pool of bowlers who will be rotated time and again so that they stay fresh. Now we are blessed with a great bench strength..."

"This tour has taken a lot out of the boys, but now in future you have seven fast bowlers raring to play for the country.

"With the number of Tests we are going to play — four against England here and five in England, it will be very handy. They will all be rotated and we will make sure the best team is put forward," he said.

SINGLES

IPL AUCTION LIKELY ON FEB 18

NEW DELHI: The IPL players auction ahead of the 2021 season is likely to be held on February 18, a BCCI official told PTI on Friday. "The auction will be held on February 18. The venue is yet to be decided," the official said. The BCCI is also yet to decide whether the IPL will happen in India or not even though Board President Sourav Ganguly has repeatedly asserted that everything possible would be done to keep the glitzy event at its home.

SFI PLANNING EXPOSURE CAMP TO SA

NEW DELHI: The Swimming Federation of India (SFI) is planning an exposure camp for swimmers to South Africa in March subject to the Covid-19 situation in the country. A group of 20 swimmers — 10 seniors and as many juniors will train either at the High Performance Centre in Pretoria or Stellenbosch and will also take part in the FINA qualifying meets scheduled to be held in Durban. "The team will arrive sometime in March and the last event is around May 29 so the swimmers will train and race there," SFI Secretary General Monal Chokshi told PTI.

BARODA SUSPEND HOODA FOR INDISCIPLINE

VADODARA: The Baroda Cricket Association (BCA) has suspended senior player Deepak Hooda, who had stormed out of the camp before the start of Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, for this domestic season for "indiscipline" and "bringing disrespect to the game." Hooda had walked out of the team on the eve of domestic T20 tourney after a spat with captain Krupal Pandya. "He (Hooda) has been suspended for this season for indiscipline and bringing disrespect to the BCA and the game. Without informing the team and the BCA, he left the team and the (bio) bubble," BCA secretary Ajit Lele told PTI on Friday.

SERBIA VS GERMANY, CANADA IN ATP CUP

MELBOURNE: Novak Djokovic and his defending champion Serbia squad will play Germany and Canada in group play at the ATP Cup from February 1-5 at Melbourne Park. The draw held on Friday also has Australia playing in a tough group with Rafael Nadal's Spain as well as Greece in Group B. Serbia beat Spain in the final of the inaugural 2020 ATP Cup. Greece will be led by No 6-ranked Stefan Tsitsipas. Alex de Minaur leads the hosts lineup that made the semis last year.

CHENNAI TEST BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

CHENNAI: The first two Tests of the upcoming India-England series will be played at the M A Chidambaram Stadium behind closed doors, a top official from host association TNCA said on Friday. According to TNCA secretary R S Ramasaamy, the two Tests would be played without spectators as per a BCCI directive, considering the prevailing Covid-19 situation.

DANGAL GAMES SERIES 'A' RAISE \$1MN FUND

NEW DELHI: Dangal Games, India's booming online skill-based gaming platform has raised a 'Series A' fund of \$1mn from a strategic investor. Since its inception, Dangal Games has catered to its audience remarkably well, which elicited their first product 'PokerDangal' to be honored among India's top 5 online Poker platforms. Following up the phenomenal response, the company launched 'RummyDangal' in the last quarter holding an intention to forge a snappy yet trustable platform to enjoy online rummy in India. The company now plans to add 'Fantasy Games' to their bandwagon before start of IPL 2021. Agencies

Pant will improve gradually as wicketkeeper: Saha

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Rishabh Pant the batsman redeemed himself spectacularly in Australia and his much-criticised wicket-keeping skills are also on the mend, feels senior India stumper Wriddhman Saha who wants the youngster to be given some breathing space as "no one learns algebra in class I".

Saha, who is considered India's No 1 Test wicketkeeper, said that he does not believe that Pant's heroic show in Australia would close the door for him in the Indian team.

"You can ask him (Pant), we have a friendly relationship and help each other whoever gets into the XI. Personally, there's no conflict with him," Saha said after returning home following the historic Test series win.

"I don't see who is No 1 or 2... Team will give a chance to those who do better. I will continue to do my job. Selection



is not in my hands, it's up to the management."

Saha was all praise for the 23-year-old Pant, whose 89 not out on the fifth day sealed the match for India at the Gabba.

"No one learns algebra in class I. You always go step by step. He is giving his best and will definitely improve. He has matured and proved himself. In the long run, it augurs well for the Indian team," he said of Pant

who has often been found wanting behind the stumps.

"The way he has shown his intent after being sidelined from his favourite T20 and ODI formats was really exceptional."

Since the Brisbane show, Pant is being compared incessantly with the legendary MS Dhoni but Saha said "Dhoni will remain Dhoni and everyone has his own identity".

I can be called a bowling all-rounder: Shardul

MUMBAI: It was a debut over two years after his actual debut and Shardul Thakur says he took a quantum leap from being just a fast bowler to a bowling all-rounder with his impactful show in India's epoch-making Brisbane Test triumph over Australia.

Thakur snared seven wickets and was India's top scorer in the first innings, striking 67 while batting at No 8. He, along with Washington Sundar, pulled the team out of trouble by conjuring a crucial 123-run stand. The partnership eventually played a key role in the team's three-wicket win.

"Yes, I can be called a bowling all-rounder, I have that ability to bat and even in future, whenever I get my opportunity to bat, I am going to contribute useful runs to the team's total," Thakur, who has seven first-class fifties said.

He could have made it even more momentous at Brisbane with a five-wicket haul but has no regrets on missing out on that as he can't feel happy enough

for fellow pacer Mohammed Siraj, who actually got one.

"No, I don't regret on missing a fiver in the second innings. I mean, it would have been okay if I had taken a fiver but I am really happy for Siraj and I really wished that he should get five wickets, because he was going through a lot of hard time," he said.

The 29-year-old was extremely pleased with his own performance, and said it was special because it came amid tough circumstances and against a strong opposition.

"...It is not easy to play against Australia in Brisbane, everyone knows their record in Brisbane, they hadn't lost a Test match (since) 1988 until this one when we beat them," he said.

"So, to have performed in this game taking seven wickets and also scoring a fifty and being able to majorly contribute in the team's victory, it really makes me happy," added the right-arm speedster, who returned with match-figures of 7/155. PTI



Ravi Shastri @RaviShastriOfc 3h Find of the tour for shoring up the bowling attack the way he did - Mohd Siraj. He fought through personal loss, racial remarks and channelled them to find home in the team huddle



India head coach Ravi Shastri on Friday described rookie pacer Mohammed Siraj as the find of the Australia tour, hailing him for playing a key role in the historic Test series win despite personal loss and racial abuse

Mathews' ton lifts Lanka to 229-4

AFF ■ GALLE

Angelo Mathews' stubborn century took Sri Lanka to 229-4 on the first day of the second Test against England on Friday after early strikes by James Anderson made the home side look vulnerable.

Mathews was at the crease on 107 with Niroshan Dickwella on 19 at the close in Galle as Sri Lanka, who lost the first Test by seven wickets, tried to make best use of a good batting pitch after winning the toss.

Anderson bowled with masterful control throughout and claimed the first three wickets, including opener Lahiru Thirimanne for 43 soon after lunch, that took his Test



Angelo Mathews raises his bat after he completes his hundred

tally to 603 in 157 matches. The 38-year-old Lancashire bowler finished the day with remarkable figures of 3-24 from 19 overs.

Mathews built crucial partnerships, including a 117-run

2nd Test. Day 2
Live from 9:50am IST
SONY TEN 2 NETWORK

stand for the fourth wicket with skipper Dinesh Chandimal who made 52.

Mathews, the former captain, acknowledged that England had put his side under pressure early in the day.

"I got into rhythm in the second innings of the first Test, so I thought if I get a good start, I can make it big," said the 33-year-old all-rounder.

"Even though we are 229 for four, we can't give it away tomorrow. If it is this hot tomorrow, it will start turning. "We don't know what a good score is — we will try to get as many as we can."

SPECIAL TRAIN

In order to clear extra rush of passengers during the Mahakumbh Mela at Haridwar, Railways have decided to run a fully reserved Special Express Train between Puri-Yog Nagari Rishikesh-Puri as per schedule given below :-

08477/08478 Puri - Yog Nagari Rishikesh - Puri Fully Reserved Special Express Train (Daily)					
Train No. 08477		STATIONS	Train No. 08478		
ARR.	DEP.		ARR.	DEP.	
---	20:45	PURI	03:25	---	
13:00	13:20	HAZRAT NIZAMUDDIN	11:45	12:00	
21:50	---	YOG NAGARI RISHIKESH	---	05:35	

DAYS OF RUN: 08477 Ex Puri Daily from 27.01.2021 to 30.04.2021 and 08478 Ex Yog Nagari Rishikesh Daily from 30.01.2021 to 03.05.2021.

STOPPAGES: Khurda Road Jn, Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Jajpur Keonjhar Road, Bhadrak, Soro, Balasore, Jaleswar, Hijilli, Chakulia, Ghatsila, Tatanagar Jn, Sini Jn, Rajkharsawan Jn., Chakardaharpur, Manoharpur, Rourkela, Raj Gangpur, Jharsuguda Jn, Raigarh, Kharsia, Sakti, Baradwar, Champa Jn., Janjgir Naila, Akaltara, Bilaspur Jn., Pendra Road, Anuppur Jn, Amlai, Burhar, Shahdol, Birsinghpur, Umaria, Katni Murwara, Damoh, Saugor, Khurai, Malkheri, Lalitpur, Jhansi Jn, Datia, Dabra, Gwalior, Morena, Dhaulpur, Agra Cantt, Raja Ki Mandi, Mathura Jn., Kosi Kalan, Faridabad, Hazrat Nizamuddin Jn, Ghaziabad, Meerut City, Meerut Cant, Sakhoti Tanda, Muzaffarnagar, Deoband, Tapri, Roorkee, Haridwar, Motichur, Raiwala Jn & Virbhadra Halt stations.

ACCOMMODATION: AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & Second Seating (Reserved).

All norms of the State and Central Government regarding COVID-19 including Social distancing, sanitization etc., must be followed in the trains and at the Railway stations. All other precautions associated with COVID-19 should also be ensured.

For any kind of information such as detailed Time-Table of stations enroute etc., passengers are requested to contact Railway Enquiry No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or NTES App.

Security Helpline No. 182 Integrated Helpline No. 139

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B'desh secure ODI series

Dhaka: Tamim Iqbal hit a half-century and spinner Mehidy Hasan claimed a career-best four for 25 on Friday as Bangladesh beat a weakened West Indies by seven wickets to seal the three-match, one-day series 2-0.

Tamim hit 50 off 76 balls to steer Bangladesh to 149-3 in 33.2 overs after West Indies, missing nearly all their top stars, were all out for 148 at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Dhaka.

Mehidy led the attack while spinner Shakib Al Hasan and pacer Mustafizur Rahman complemented with two wickets each. Rovman Powell hit 41 off 66 balls while debutant opener Kjoorn Ottley and Nkrumah Bonner made 24 and 20 respectively. AFP

AFF ■ LIVERPOOL

Jürgen Klopp admitted the end of Liverpool's 68-game unbeaten run at Anfield was a "massive punch in the face" as the Premier League champions crashed to a shock 1-0 defeat against Burnley on Thursday.

Klopp's side were beaten in a home league game for the first time since Crystal Palace won at Anfield in April 2017.

Ashley Barnes clinched Burnley's first win at Liverpool since 1974 when he converted an 83rd-minute penalty after being fouled by Reds goalkeeper Alisson Becker.

"It's a massive, massive punch in the face," Klopp said. "We had the ball a lot, created some and didn't finish the situations off.

Eng should focus on beating India instead of Ashes obsession: Swann

PTI ■ LONDON

India seem "virtually unbeatable" after their historic Test triumph in Australia and England would be achieving something bigger than their "obsession" Ashes if the tourists manage to upstage Virat Kohli's men next month, feels former spinner Graeme Swann.

England would be touring

India for a four-match Test series, beginning on February 5, followed by five T20 Internationals and three ODIs.

Swann said India, despite captain Kohli not being available after the first match, dominated Australia like very few sides have.

"England always saying 'well the Ashes are coming up. Australia are not the best team in the world anymore.

They used to be, by miles, ... They're not now, but we're obsessed with this," Swann told *The Sun*.

"We have to move away from looking forward to the Ashes series. I think beating India in India is a far higher thing to strive for right now. They're virtually unbeatable in India since we beat them in 2012. Why isn't that the whole thing?" he asked.

Liverpool lose at Anfield



lost a game which I think it's actually impossible to lose. But we did it."

Spluttering Liverpool have slipped to fourth place after a second defeat in their last three league games and trail leaders Manchester United by six points.

They have gone five league games without a win and it is seven hours and 18 minutes since they last found the net in the league.

The Reds have gone four league games without scoring for the first time since May 2000, failing with 87 shots since Sadio Mane's 12th-minute strike against West Brom.

Alisson told me he didn't touch him, but I didn't see it back. We

Satwik scripts twin win in doubles

Rankireddy combines with Chirag, Ashwini to reach men's, mixed doubles semis



PTI ■ BANGKOK

Error-prone P V Sindhu suffered a demoralising defeat in the quarterfinals while Sameer Verma's gallant fight too ended in agony at the Toyota Thailand Open here on Friday.

However, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy claimed twin wins in mixed and men's doubles quarterfinals along with Ashwini Ponnappa and Chirag Shetty to keep India's flag fluttering at the BWF World Tour Super 1000 tournament here.

Thailand Open semis
Live from 9:30am IST
STAR SPORTS 3 & HOTSTAR

Sindhu looked a pale shadow of the player who had won the world championship Gold in 2019 as she committed too many unforced errors to go down 13-21, 9-21 against home favourite Ratchanon Intanon.

In men's singles, Sameer's giant-killing run also came to an end after he squandered a match point to go down 13-21, 21-19, 20-22 to world No 3 Anders Antonsen in a quarterfinal.

With the defeat of Sindhu and Sameer, Indian challenge in singles competition ended in the tournament.

The doubles players, however, gave fans something to cheer as Satwik and Ashwini upstaged world No 6 pair of Peng Soon Chan and Liu Ying Goh of Malaysia 18-21, 24-22, 22-20 after toiling hard for one hour and 15 minutes.

Later in the day, Satwik and Chirag saw off another Malaysian pair of Ong Yew Sin and Teo Ee Yi 21-18 24-22 in 37 minutes.