

OPINION 6
IN THE FOOTSTEPS
OF DONALD TRUMP**WORLD 8**
AP SOURCE: BIDEN TO DROP TRUMP'S
MILITARY TRANSGENDER BAN**SPORT 11**
CHELSEA SACK
LAMPARD

RAIPUR, TUESDAY JANUARY 26, 2021; PAGES 12 ₹3



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China's bid to open new front in Sikkim foiled

Minor clash at Naku La on Jan 20, confirms Indian Army, but China claims no scuffle took place

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

When India and China were preparing for talks last week to defuse tension at the border in Ladakh, the People's Liberation Army (PLA) troops tried to breach the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Sikkim leading to a minor face-off when Indian Army intercepted the Chinese. Soldiers from both armies were injured. The situation was brought under control following the intervention of local commanders.

China on Monday, however, denied that such an incident ever took place. The Indian Army, on the other hand, confirmed the incident and said, "We have received several queries regarding a face-off between Indian Army and PLA troops in the Sikkim sector. It is clarified that there was a minor face-off at the Naku La area of North Sikkim on

January 20 and the same was resolved by local commanders as per established protocols. Media is requested to refrain from overplaying or exaggerating reports which are factually incorrect."

Sources said the injuries were insignificant and minor in nature and roughly about 20 PLA soldiers and four Indians were injured in the melee. The fracas took place when the Chinese patrol tried to enter Indian territory, they added. The Naku La is located at a height of more than 13,000 feet.

The latest stand-off took place at a time when the Corps Commanders of the two armies were getting ready for the talks on Sunday. The talks lasted more than 16 hours at the Chushul-Moldo border meeting point in Eastern Ladakh. However, there was no tangible breakthrough in the parleys.

The joint statement



released here on Monday said the two sides had a candid and in-depth exchange of views on disengagement along the LAC.

The two sides agreed that the ninth round of meeting was positive, practical and constructive, which further enhanced mutual trust and understanding. The two sides agreed to push for an early disengagement of the frontline troops.

Talking about the latest face-off, an official said, such an

incident had also taken place last year on May 9 at Naku La when tension was building up at the LAC in Eastern Ladakh. Mountain pass is known as La in the Tibetan language. Even then, the troops from both sides exchanged blows after jostling each other. The intervention of local commanders prevented the situation from escalating.

Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Zhao Lijian told a daily briefing in Beijing on

Monday that he had "no information to offer" on the reports of clashes.

He also said the Chinese troops are committed to maintaining peace at the border and urged India to meet China halfway and refrain from any unilateral actions that may exacerbate the border situation.

The Chinese army mouth-piece *The Global Times* termed the incident as fake news and said there is no record of this incident in the Chinese PLA front line patrol logs.

In recent days, the focus of the military's top leaders on both sides has been on the ninth round of Corps Commander-level talks, not a new border clash, and the two sides have not been involved in such clashes mentioned by the Indian media, it said.

There have been minor frictions between the frontline forces of the two countries, but if there had been friction

involving casualties, it is impossible for them not to be recorded in the Chinese patrol logs.

As regards the Corps Commander-level dialogue, the Indian delegation was headed by 14 Corps chief Lt General PK Menon while Major General Liu Lin led the Chinese team.

The statement said the two countries also agreed to follow the important consensus of their state leaders, maintain the good momentum of dialogue and negotiation, and hold the 10th round of the Corps Commander-level meeting at an early date to jointly advance de-escalation.

The two sides agreed to continue their effective efforts in ensuring the restraint of the frontline troops, stabilise and control the situation along the LAC in the Western Sector of the China-India border, and jointly maintain peace and tranquility.

India honours Galwan hero martyr Col Santosh Babu with Mahavir Chakra award

Veer Chakra to be conferred on 5 martyred soldiers

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Colonel B Santosh Babu, who along with 19 other Army personnel, was martyred in a brawl with the Chinese troops in the Galwan valley last year, will be awarded the Mahavir Chakra posthumously on the occasion of Republic Day this year. This medal is the second highest wartime gallantry medal.

Veer Chakra, the third highest wartime gallantry

medal, was conferred on five other soldiers. All these soldiers had died with Babu, the commanding officer of the 16 Bihar Regiment, in the bloody clashes on June 15 in Eastern Ladakh.

The Chinese used nailed batons and iron rods to attack the Indian Army team. More than 35 Chinese soldiers were also killed in the free for all. However, China is yet to announce the number of casualties on its side.

The Veer Chakra awardees include Naib Subedar Nudaram Soren, Havaldar K Palani, Havaldar Tejinder Singh, Naik Deepak Singh and Naik Gurtej Singh.

Kisan to march on Parliament on Feb 1

Two lakh tractors to participate in kisan tractor rally on Republic Day

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Sanyukt Kisan Morcha on Monday announced that they will march towards Parliament from different locations on February 1 when the annual Union Budget is scheduled to be presented.

"We will march towards Parliament on foot from different locations on the Budget day on February 1. As far as tomorrow's tractor rally is concerned, it will give the Government an idea of our strength and they will know the agitation is not just limited to Haryana or Punjab but it is an agitation of the whole country," said Darshan Pal of the Krantikari Kisan Union.

"The farmers who have come for the tractor parade will not go back now and will join the protest. The agitation will continue till our demands met. Our stand remains the same," Pal told a press conference, sharing the farmers' plans to intensify the protest.

The farmers' unions also claimed that around two lakh tractors are expected to participate in their tractor rally on the Republic Day in Delhi.

The rally is planned to be moved into the city from the Singhu, Tikri and Ghazipur borders.

Protesting farmer unions opposing the three contentious farm laws said their parade will not enter central Delhi and it will start only after the official Republic Day parade concludes.

"It will be big event in the Indian democracy. We will celebrate Republic Day in its true sense tomorrow. The way the political leaders have played with the Constitution by constantly introducing amendments that kept violating human rights...we will continue to demand that they be rectified. It is the same Constitution in which they have introduced these three laws, which have created a problem not just for the farmers but also for the entire population of the country, against

Pawar: Farmers will destroy farm laws

Mumbai: The Centre may pass any law undermining the Constitution and on the back of its majority, but once the common man and farmers rise, they will not keep quiet until the new farm acts and the ruling party are destroyed, NCP president Sharad Pawar said on Monday.

which this protest has been happening for two months now. The agitation will continue until the government repeals these laws," Balbir Singh Rajewal of Bharatiya Kisan Union said.

To maintain vigil, around 6,000 security personnel have

been deployed by the Delhi police. Facial recognition system of Delhi Police has also been set up at vantage points for suspect identification.

A five-layer security cover comprising border pickets, inner, middle and outer security has been deployed.

Avoid routes of march: Delhi Traffic advisory

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In order to ensure smooth flow of traffic movement across Delhi on Republic Day, the Delhi Traffic Police on Monday issued an advisory regarding farmers' tractors rally. Police asked commuters to avoid routes where farmers will conduct the parade.

According to Meenu Chaudhary, the Joint Commissioner of Police, traffic, the tractor rally will be taken out on Tuesday from three city borders and the traffic will remain affected on these routes and the roads leading to these routes.

"The first rally will start from Singhu Border to Sanjay Gandhi Transport Nagar, DTU, Shahabad Dairy, Barwala Village, Pooth Khurd

Village, Kanjhawala T-Point, Kanjhawala Chowk, Kutubgarh, Auchandi Border and Kharkhoda Toll Plaza.



Tractors lined up on the National Highway 44 (GT Road) to participate in farmers' tractor rally as part of their ongoing agitation against farm reform laws near Singhu border in Sonapat district on Monday

PTI

World media to cover tractor rally

YouTube channels from UK, USA, Canada on Delhi borders for coverage

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Besides Indian media, a large number of foreign media has also lined up to cover the "kisan parade" on January 26 in the national Capital. A large number of YouTube channels from the UK, the USA, and Canada are present to cover the tractor rally.

Farmers' protests have drawn attention from across the world and foreign media has been highlighting the protests which entered its 61st

day on Monday.

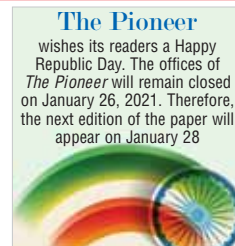
According to ground reports, a large number of international media, both print and TV, has assembled at three protests sites — Tikri Border, Ghazipur Border and Singhu Border — in the national Capital to cover the tractor rally. This is for the first time since Independence the farmers will march in a unique kisan parade with National Flags. As thousands of farmers have started marching towards Delhi borders to participate in the tractor rally on Republic Day, agriculture organisations have decided to hold similar parades at State and district headquarters across the country.

Foreign media, including BBC, Al Jazeera, Washington

Post, the New York Times, Toronto Star, Reuters, the Province, Hamilton Spectator, CNN, CBC 24, Bloomberg, the Guardian and the Sun, were concentrated only on the Singhu Border till date. Now they have set up their crew at Ghazipur and Tikri borders. Farmers' leaders have reported to have approached a large number of YouTube channels based in Canada, the USA, and the UK to cover their events.

Foreign media is covering farmers' protests in a prominent way. Farmers' protests are making headlines across the world. Recently, a Pakistani singer Jawad Ahmed released an anthem inspired by the protests and dedicated to the farmers in India. Titled *Kisana*, the song which was released in December 2020, has been viewed thousands of times on YouTube. Several reaction videos on the song have also been released. The lyrics of the song say, "teri sohni dharti maa, tu jag da palan har, hum tu jeeha hai (This beautiful Earth belongs to you, you are the patron of this Earth, rise and live)," which roughly translates to peasants need to rise and that they are the providers of the world.

Last month, a group of seven American lawmakers had written to then US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to raise farmers' issue with his Indian counterpart.



CAPSULE

PASWAN NAMED FOR PADMA BHUSHAN

New Delhi: The former Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution late Ram Vilas Paswan was on Monday honoured with prestigious Padma Bhushan.

NEW-GEN AKASH MISSILE LAUNCHED SUCCESSFULLY

Balalore: India on Monday successfully test-fired the new-generation Akash missile from an integrated test range off the Odisha coast, an official statement said. The surface-to-air missile was launched from Chandipur ITR in the afternoon, it said.

ACTRESS JAYASHREE RAMAIAH FOUND DEAD

Bengaluru: Kannada actress Jayashree Ramaiah was found dead at an old-age and rehabilitation centre in the city on Monday, police sources said. She was found hanging and is said to have died by suicide, officials said, adding that investigation is going on.

Opp plans to force repeal of farm laws in Budget Session

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Opposition parties are likely to meet on Thursday to strategise plans to corner the Government in the Budget Session and force it to repeal the farm laws. Sources said leaders of various political parties, including the erstwhile NDA partner SAD, have got in touch to make a joint effort to repeal the three laws in the forthcoming Budget Session beginning on January 29.

The main aim of the Opposition parties is to force the Government to repeal the law as it cannot be suspended

since the laws came into force with the President of India's accent.

Sources in the Congress and a couple of political parties confirmed that the Parliamentary floor leaders will meet to deliberate upon a strategy for the session on Thursday.

A bigger convention of Opposition parties may also take place thereafter. The SAD walked out of NDA in protest against the farm laws and its Lok Sabha MP Harsimrat Kaur resigned from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Council of Ministers.

Punish rumour-mongers, fear has hit vaccination: Centre to States

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Putting the blame on "misinformation" for sluggish vaccination drive that started on January 16, the Centre has asked the States to take penal action against those engaged in rumour-mongering.

In a communication to Chief Secretaries of all States and UTs, Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla also emphasised that the National Regulatory Authority in the country has found that the two vaccines — Covishield, manufactured by the Serum Institute of India, and Covaxin, developed and manufactured by the Bharat Biotech Limited — were safe and immunogenic.



The Central Government, in close collaboration with the State Governments and UT administrations, has launched the inoculation drive of Covid-19 vaccination from January 16 across the country with the two vaccines.

"I would like to strongly

emphasise that the National Regulatory Authority in the country has found both the vaccines safe and immunogenic. However, it has been reported that unfounded and misleading rumours are circulating on social and other media, creating doubt about the safety and efficacy of these vaccines.

"Such kind of rumour mongering, particularly by vested interests, can create unwarranted doubts among people at large, and there is, therefore, a need to check all such kinds of unfounded scare mongering relating to the safety and immunogenicity of the vaccines," the communication said.

Police medals for distinguished C'garh officers

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

On the occasion of Republic Day, the Government of India on Monday announced names of police officers and employees who will receive Distinguished Service Medal, Commendable Service Medal and Gallantry Medal.

Pradeep Gupta (IPS), Director Directorate of Public Prosecution, Nava Raipur, will receive a Distinguished Service Medal, a press release said.

Those selected for Meritorious Service police medal are Sohan Lal, Deputy Superintendent of Police, STF

Baghera, Durg; Manisha Singh Nayan, Inspector (M), Superintendent of Police (SP) Office, Jagdalpur; Varsha Sharma, Sub Inspector (M), Police Training School, Rajnandgaon; Kamlesh Kumar Sonbhor, Sub Inspector (M), Police Training School, Rajnandgaon; PD Ashok Kumar, Sub Inspector (M), STF Baghera, Durg; Tula Ram Bank, Assistant Sub Inspector, Police Station, Dongargarh, Rajnandgaon; Arun Bahadur, Principal constable, 12th Corps Chasbal, Ramanujanji-Balrampur; Keshav Kumar Dhruv, Principal Constable, Police Line, Bijapur; Ashwani Kumar Singh, Principal Constable, DSB, Bhilai, Durg,

and Ravindra Kumar Bhuri, Constable, Police Station, Charama, Kanker.

Those who will receive Gallantry medals are Ajay Sonkar, Inspector, DRG, Narayanpur; Abdul Sameer, Inspector, Police Station, Bortalab, Rajnandgaon; Raman Usendi, Inspector, Police Station Mardapal, Kondagaon; Liladhar Rathore, Inspector, SHO Pali, Korba; Omprakash Sen, Company Commander, STF Baghera, Durg; Santosh Hemla, Sub Inspector, DRG, Dantewada; Ramesh Kumar Sori, Assistant Sub Inspector, Police Line, Kondagaon and T.P. Dileep, Principal Constable, STF Baghera, Durg.

Maintain peace during R-day tractor rally: Capt appeals to farmers

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Monday appealed to the farmers to ensure that their Republic Day Tractor Rally remains peaceful, just as their anti-farm law protests have been so far. At the same time, the Chief Minister urged the Centre once again to heed the troubled voice of the farming community in the true spirit of the Indian Republic.

"Peace has been the hallmark of your (farmers') democratic protests all these months, and should remain integral to your agitation in the days ahead, including the R-Day Tractor Rally into the national capital," said the Chief Minister, in his Republic Day eve message.

"The sight of your (farmers') tractors on Delhi roads tomorrow will underline the fact that the ethos of the Indian Constitution and the essence of our Republic is inalienable and uncompromisable," he said, adding that the farmers' arduous battle for survival

"will always remind us of this truth, and it will always help us remember (lest we forget), that the principles on which stands the edifice of the India we know, and our forefathers strove to build, cannot be destroyed or demolished on the whims of a few."

Lamenting that the federal structure on which India's polity is founded is facing one of its biggest threats under the present Indian regime, the Chief Minister said that the brazen manner in which the three farm laws were pushed through, without debate or discussion, cannot, and should not be accepted in the world's largest democracy.

The Chief Minister said that their collective fight, in which his Government was standing shoulder-to-shoulder with the farmers, was aimed at protecting the federal core of the Indian Constitution.

The Chief Minister also extended his respects to all those farmers who had lost their lives in the prolonged agitation, which could have

been avoided in the first place or could have been brought to an end long back had the "insensitive" Government of India, led by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) not chosen to stand on unwarranted ego.

SAD PRESIDENT CALLS FOR DISCIPLINED CONDUCT OF TRACTOR RALLY

Shiromani Akali Dal president Sukhbir Singh Badal on Monday said that the peaceful and disciplined conduct of the tractor march on Tuesday will be the harbinger of a huge victory for our farmers.

"I am fully confident that the tractor march on Tuesday will be a totally peaceful event. Peace is the top priority for everyone and the participants in the farmers' struggle so far have demonstrated an

unprecedented and commendable discipline. This has made this movement one of the most unique democratic events in recent history. It is remarkable that hundreds of thousands of people have been protesting for over two months now in a most peaceful manner, despite provocations and conspiracies against them. Everyone participating in this movement and all Punjabis deserve full credit for this," said Sukhbir.

SAD chief, at the same time, urged the Central Government "to ensure that the Police and other law enforcing agencies deal with the March tomorrow with utmost sensitivity and patience." Sukhbir has also issued directions to the party workers, taking part in the March, to act as "vigilantes for peace".

SECURITY TIGHTENED IN PUNJAB AND HARYANA

Security has been stepped up across Punjab and Haryana ahead of Republic Day celebrations on Tuesday. Adequate security personnel have been deployed in Haryana's Sonapat, Panipat and Jhajjar, the districts near the national Capital, in view of the farmers' tractor parade in Delhi on January 26.

Services of bomb disposal squad and sniffer dog units were being taken to sensitise the vulnerable places across Punjab and Haryana, and the vehicles entering the two states

were being checked thoroughly, officials said.

Sonapat's Superintendent of Police Jashandeep Randhawa said police have made foolproof security arrangements to ensure Republic Day celebrations pass off smoothly.

Traffic diversion plans have been put in place as the tractor parade is likely to cause some disruptions. "We are coordinating with neighbouring districts Karnal and Panipat so that heavy vehicle traffic can be diverted from there," he said.

Haryana Police has issued an advisory stating that in

view of the security and traffic arrangements for Republic Day and the tractor parade, there would be disruptions in

vehicular movement on the national highway from Karnal and Rohtak towards Delhi during January 25-27.

Punjab launches mega self-employment loan mela

PNS ■ PATIALA

Taking Congress-led Punjab Government's flagship 'Ghar Ghar Rozgar and Karobar Mission' forward, Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Monday launched a Mega Self Employment Loan Mela from Patiala as a culmination to the special loan melas held across the State during October-December 2020, wherein 1.70 lakh youth were assisted in getting self-employment loans from various banks.

A token of 1,000 loan sanction certificates were handed over to beneficiaries as a symbolic gesture across the state on Monday, with the Chief Minister handing over certificates to five beneficiaries. He also paid a visit to the office of District Bureaus of Employment and Enterprise of Patiala district at Mini Secretariat. "More than 15 lakh youth have been facilitated in getting employment in Private or Government sector or Self-Employment since the Congress Government took over the state's reins in March 2017, translating into 1100 youth benefiting every day from the Mission," the Chief Minister said.

He said that during this period, 8.8 lakh youth had been facilitated for self-employment, while 5.69 lakh youth had got jobs in the private sector and 58,258 in the government sector. The October-December 2020 drive had led to a total of 1.7 lakh youth getting jobs/self-employment opportunities, he added.

The Chief Minister announced that with the COVID situation now easing, two job melas will be organized every month in each

district, and government jobs shall be regularly advertised this year to achieve the already-announced target of giving one lakh jobs, of which advertisements have already been issued for filling up 20,000 vacancies.

The Chief Minister said that State Government's multi-pronged strategy on this front, along with the proactive new industrial policy, had resulted in on-ground Industrial Investments worth Rs 71,000 crore in the State, thus generating additional potential of 2.5 lakh jobs.

Given the limitation to appointments in the government sector, where only 13,000 vacancies are created through retirement every year, "Congress Government has lowered the retirement age for government employees to create new opportunities for youth", he said, adding that as the COVID situation stabilizes, jobs would increase in the industry.

The state's Employment Generation and Training Minister Charanjit Singh Channi, who virtually joined the occasion from Amritsar, said that the counseling services for youth interested in going abroad through legal means will begin on February 15 to protect them from exploitation by unscrupulous agents.

PUNJAB LAUNCHES NATIONAL GIRL CHILD DAY CELEBRATIONS

In an initiative towards empowering the women, Punjab Govt on Monday kick-started the National Girl Child Day celebrations with a clarion call to the society to come forward to protect the life and liberty of girls.

कार्यालय मुख्य अभियंता, लो.नि.वि., राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग परिक्षेत्र, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य हेतु ऑनलाइन (Online) निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है :-

क्र.	नि.आ.सू.क्र. दिनांक	सिस्टम आईडी क्र.	कार्य का नाम	कार्य की अनुमानित लागत	निविदा क्रय करने की अंतिम तिथि
1.	33/CE/NH/TC /44-09/2021 (1st Call) Dt. 23-01-2021	2021_MORTH_611851_1	Periodical Renewal work in Km 7.300 to 11.500, Km 12.000 to 13.800, Km 27.000 to 27.900, Km 37.000 to 38.600, Km 96.000 to 100.000 & Km. 108.000 to 110.000 (total length 14,500 km) of Ambikapur-Ramanujan-Garwa road n.h. 343	Rs. 452.065 Lacs	15-02-2021

2. उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्य की निविदा की सामान्य शर्तें, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञापन, निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी सड़क परिवहन एवं राजमार्ग मंत्रालय (MORTH) के ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट वेब पोर्टल <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> से डाउनलोड की जा सकती है।

मुख्य अभियंता
लो.नि.वि., राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग परिक्षेत्र, रायपुर (छ.ग.)
G- 86621/4 Ryp/Dtd 25.1.21

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-1
Government of India
Ministry of Finance, Department of Financial Services

2nd Flr., Bhikshu Chambers, 18, Gandhinagar Society, Nr. Kachra Ashram, Ellorabridge, Ahmedabad-380 006.

Established U/s 3 of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks & Financial Institutions Act, 1993, for the area comprising District of Gandhinagar, Gandhinagar, Mazhara, Pate, Sabarkantha (Hemantpur) & Gandhinagar (Hemantpur) of Gujarat State w.e.f. 17 June 2021 (See Section 25 to 29 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 read with Rule 2 of Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act-1961)

R. C. No. 101/2020
HDFC BANK LTD., Navrangpura, Ahmedabad
Certificate Holder

V/s.
M/S. KANDLA ENERGY AND CHEMICALS LTD. & OTHERS
Certificate Debtor

DEMAND NOTICE

To,

CD No. 1
M/s. Kandla Energy and Chemical Ltd., A company incorporated under provisions of company Act, 1956 having its Regd. Company situated at 2nd Flr., Shri Krishna Centre, Nr. Mitakhalai Six Rd., Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380 009 & having its corporate Off. at 4th Flr., Sarthik Annex, beside Gulmohar Park, Iskon Circle, S. C. Highway, Ahmedabad-380 015.

CD No. 2
Shri. Sanjay Rai, Residing at A/12, First Floor, Rivera Heights, Anand Nagar Road, Behind Prahladnagar Garden, Satellite, Ahmedabad-380 015.

CD No. 3
Smt. Kanchan Sanjayprakash Rai, Residing at A/12, First Floor, Rivera Heights, Anand Nagar Road, Behind Prahladnagar Garden, Satellite, Ahmedabad-380 015.

CD No. 4
FPC Petro Energy Pvt. Ltd., A company incorporated under provisions of company Act, 1956 having its office situated at respondent K. Residency, Flat No. 9, 2nd Floor, D. No. 8-2-518/2/2/82, Bajaj Hills Road No. 11, Hyderabad-500 004.

CD No. 5
Galaxy Impo Expo Pvt. Ltd., A company incorporated under provisions of company Act, 1956 having its office at Plot No. 32, Phase-II, Sitara Industrial Area, Opp. S. K. Sarawagi Plant, Raipur, Chhattisgarh.

In view of the Recovery Certificate issued in T.A./O.A./M.A./Misc. I.A./Exe. Pet./No. 322/2015 passed by the Hon'ble Presiding Officer, DRT-1, Ahmedabad an amount of ₹ 7,23,34,784.01 (Rs. Seven Crore Twenty Three Lakhs Thirty Four Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty Four and Paise One Only) (Decree Amount) is due against you.

You are hereby called upon to deposit the above / below sum within 15 days of the receipt of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made as per rules.

Sum determined by the Hon'ble Presiding Officer	₹	7,23,34,784.01
Add : Interest from	₹	Due
Cost	₹	Due
Less : Recovery made after filing of O. A.	₹	Nil
Total	₹	7,23,34,784.01

In addition to the sum aforesaid you will be liable to pay :-

(a) Such interest & Cost as is payable in terms of Recovery Certificate.

(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this Notice and other process that may be taken for recovering the amount due.

* Liability of CD No. 3 would be limited to its extent of ₹ 3,41,88,986.93

* Liability of CD No. 5 would be limited to its extent of ₹ 3,81,45,797.07

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, this 11th January, 2021.

sd/-
(Mahesh Kumar)
Ve. Recovery Officer, DRT-1, Ahmedabad

Next Date : 12.02.2021

Capt virtually lays foundation stone of Jallianwala Bagh Centenary Memorial Park

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

With an emotional tribute to the unsung heroes and to their families from a poem recalling how "after years still, (we are) carrying the pain of martyrs", Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Monday virtually laid the foundation stone of the Jallianwala Bagh Centenary Memorial Park at Amritsar.

Remembering the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for India's independence, the Chief Minister slammed those criticising the State Government for setting up their own Memorial. "Every Punjab has the right to remember the unparalleled tragedy that paved the way for the freedom struggle," he said.

Terming the centenary celebration a happy occasion, he said that he will also participate in the national level celebration of the historic event at the Jallianwala Bagh.

kotak
Kotak Mahindra Bank

Registered Office : 27BKC, C27, G Block, BandraKurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400051.
Branch Office : Block B1, 3rd Floor, Pujari Chambers, Pachpedi Naka, Raipur - 492001 (C.G.)

POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

WHEREAS, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LIMITED, a banking company within the meaning of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 having its Registered Office at 27BKC, C27, G Block, BandraKurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400051 and Regional Office at Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd., 5th Floor, Metro Tower, A.B. Road, Near Vijay Nagar Square, Indore - 452010 (MP) and Branch Office at Block B1, 3rd Floor, Pujari Chambers, Pachpedi Naka, Raipur - 492001 (C.G.) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notice. The Details of the Parties along with Mortgaged Property Possession taken by the Bank, is given below :-

Name of Customer (Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) along Loan Account Nos.	Date of Demand Notice u/s 13(2) read with rule 9 of SARFAESI Act, Along with Amount in Rs.	Description of Immovable Property taken in to Possession (As per Appendix IV read with Rule 8 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)	Date of Possession / Type
1) M/s. Mao Amby Electronics and Telecom (Borrower) Beside SBI Fafadih Ward No. 22, Rajive Gandhi KK Plaza, Raipur - 492001.	Demand Notice Date : 25-09-2020 in all Loan Accounts (CRN No. 186040440)	Mortgage over following properties: All that piece and parcel of property bearing diverted Plot No. 6/6, part of Diverted Survey No. 258/1, Sheet No. - 6, Khata No. - 151, Kh. No. - 258/1, P.H. No. - 108, R.N.M. Raipur - 1, Ward No. - 22, Rajiv Gandhi Ward, Mouja - Fafadih, Raipur, Tehsil & Distt. - Raipur, C.G. - 492001 along with construction thereon, total area 1462 Sq. feet. Bounded By : East - Gali, West - Raipur Bilaspur Road, South - Complex of Mintoo Sharma, North - Complex of Indrachandrajain.	20.01.2021 / Symbolic Possession
2) Nand Kishore Kesharwani S/o Kishan Lal Kesharwani Having Address at : Kesharwani Vila 1223, Rupela Gali Colony, Raman Mandir Ward Fafadih, Raipur - 492001.	Loan Account No. LAP1759158 aggregating to Rs. 43,44,574.74 (Rs. Forty Three Lakhs Forty Four Thousand Five Hundred Seventy Four Paise only) as on dated 25-09-2020	Property No. 2 Mortgage with Loan Account No. LAP1759158 All that piece and parcel of property bearing Plot No. 60/11, Khadra No. 41/1(part) Old House No. 12/1223 New House No. 12/1223 1-2-3-4 PH No. 108/28, Ward No. 21, Raman Mandir Ward, R.N.M. Raipur - 1, Mouja - Fafadih, Raipur, Tehsil & Distt. - Raipur, C.G. - 492001.	
3) Mrs. Sunita Kesharwani W/o Mr. Kamal Kishore Kesharwani Kesharwani Vila 1223 Tank Colony Raman Mandir Ward Rupela Gali Fafadih, Raipur - 492001.	Loan Account No. LAP17614560 aggregating to Rs. 40,36,110.97 (Rs. Forty Lakhs Thirty Six Thousand One Hundred Ten and Ninety Seven Paise only) as on dated 25-09-2020	Property No. 2 Mortgage with Loan Account No. LAP17614560 aggregating to Rs. 40,36,110.97 (Rs. Forty Lakhs Thirty Six Thousand One Hundred Ten and Ninety Seven Paise only)	
4) Mr. Kamal Kishore Kesharwani S/o Kishan Lal Kesharwani Kesharwani Vila 1223 Tank Colony Raman Mandir Ward Rupela Gali Fafadih, Raipur - 492001.	Loan Account No. LAP17996701 aggregating to Rs. 45,01,914.04 (Forty Five Lakhs Forty One Thousand Nine Hundred Fourteen and Four Paise only) as on dated 25-09-2020	Property No. 2 Mortgage with Loan Account No. LAP17996701 aggregating to Rs. 45,01,914.04 (Forty Five Lakhs Forty One Thousand Nine Hundred Fourteen and Four Paise only)	
5) Mr. Raj Kishore Kesharwani S/o Kishan Lal Kesharwani Having Address at : Kesharwani Vila 1223 Tank Colony Raman Mandir Ward Rupela Gali Fafadih, Raipur - 492001.	Loan Account No. LAP17996701 aggregating to Rs. 45,01,914.04 (Forty Five Lakhs Forty One Thousand Nine Hundred Fourteen and Four Paise only) as on dated 25-09-2020	Property No. 2 Mortgage with Loan Account No. LAP17996701 aggregating to Rs. 45,01,914.04 (Forty Five Lakhs Forty One Thousand Nine Hundred Fourteen and Four Paise only)	
6) M/s. New Bhawani Super Bazar Having Address at : New Bhawani Super Bazar Main Road Fafadih, Raipur - 492001.	Co borrower / Guarantor		

The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13 (4) of the said Act read with rule 9 of the said rules on the date as mentioned above in "Date of Possession" Column.

The Borrowers mentioned herein above in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to charge of KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LIMITED, for an amount as mentioned in this notice, along with future interest at contractual rate and substitute interest, incidental expenses, costs and charges etc. due w.e.f. the very next date of the status of outstanding amount due showing in the above mentioned details, till the date of full repayment and / or realization. Further the borrower's attention invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Please note description of properties is as mentioned above.

sd/-
Authorized Officer, Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited

Date : 20.01.2021, Place : Raipur

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, NATIONAL HIGHWAY CIRCLE, BILASPUR (C.G.)

Notice Inviting Tender No. 09/1-2)/G/2020-21 Bilaspur, Dated 23.01.2021

TENDER NOTICE
(1st Call)

Online tenders are invited for the following's work upto 10.02.2021.

Sno.	Name of Work	P.A.C. (Rs. in Lacs)	Name of Division
1	2	3	3
01	Rehabilitation and Special Repair of Damaged Pipe Railing for Submersible Bridge of Lilagar Bridge at Km. 142/2 on NH 200 (New NH 49).	Rs. 48.56	Executive Engineer, P.W.D; N.H. Division, Bilaspur (C.G.)
02	Rehabilitation of Submersible Bridge with Repair of Damaged Railing Over Maniyari River in Km. 75.60 on NH 130A.	Rs. 49.22	Executive Engineer, P.W.D; N.H. Division, Bilaspur (C.G.)

The tender documents can be purchased online through PWD Website <http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> before 10.02.2021 The other details can be viewed online on the above-mentioned website.

Superintending Engineer
G- 86635/3 Ryp/Dtd 25.1.21 P.W.D., N.H. Circle, Bilaspur (C.G.)

Bank of Baroda
Regional Office, Jeevan Prakash.L.I.C. Building, Pandri, Raipur (C.G.)
PH: 0771- 4222611, 4222612, E-mail: recovery.raipur@bankofbaroda.com

POSSESSION NOTICE
(As per Appendix IV read with rule 8(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of Baroda under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice to the following borrowers / guarantors calling upon the Borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the respective notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The under mentioned Borrower/Guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/Guarantors and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 .

S. No.	Branch Name / Ph.No.	Name of Borrower / Guarantor	Description of Property	Demand Notice Date, Amount & Symbolic / Physical Possession Date
01	Sunder Nagar Branch, Raipur 9752089094	Mrs. Amita Jain W/o Mr. Rajesh Jain	Residential Flat No. E- 01, bearing Kh. No. - 11/1, 11/14, 11/18, 11/19, P.H.No. - 118, Boriyakhurd, Raipur, C. G., Area- 299 Sq.Ft. in the name of Mrs. Amita Jain.	17.11.2020 Rs. 2,21,726.00 + interest + other charges 20.01.2021 Symbolic

The Borrower/Guarantors/Mortgagors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the above mentioned property and any dealings with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Bank of Baroda for above mentioned amount interest and other charges thereon. The Borrower's attention is invited to provision of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Date: 25.01.2021, Place: Raipur (C.G.)
Authorized Officer, Bank of Baroda

HINDUJA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
Corporate Office: No 27A, Developed Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032. Tamil Nadu.
Branch Office: 1th Floor, Buti House, Block No. 101, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440001, Maharashtra.

APPENDIX IV POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Hinduja Housing Finance Limited (HHFL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorized Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of HHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

Name of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s)	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Date of Possession
Mr. ASHOK RATERIA Mr. ASHISH RATERIA, (Co - Borrower) Mrs. RUKMANI RATERIA, (Co - Borrower2)	ALL THAT piece and parcel of land - Nazul Sheet no. 44, Plot No. 21/1, Area 769½ Sq. Ft. Situated at Mauza - Gandhigani, Raigarh, Within the limits of Municipal Corporation, Raigarh, Block, Tehsil and District Raigarh (C.G.). BOUNDARIES - North - House of Mahaveer Agrawal South - House of Hanuman Prasad Agrawal, East - House of Memal Rateria,	16/09/2020 For Rs. 33,51,490/- (Rupees Thirty Three Lakhs fifty one thousand four hundred and ninety only)	22/01/2021
Mr. HEMANT KUMAR BALA (Principal Borrower) Mrs. SHEFALI RANI BALA, (CO- Borrower)	ALL THAT piece and parcel of land Mauja - Torwa, P.H. No. 22, Survey No. 903/2, Total Area 0.028 Hectre, within the limits of Bilaspur Municipal Corporation Bilaspur, R.I. Circle Bilaspur, Block Bilha, Tehsil and District - Bilaspur. Boundries - South - Plot of Apama Sarkar, East - Others Plot, West - Approach Road. North - Plot of Gouri Devi	16/09/2020 For Rs. 35,04,576 (Rupees Thirty Five Lakhs thirty four thousand Five hundred and Seventy six only)	22/01/2021
Mr. Jivrakhan Prasad Namdeo (Principal Borrower)	ALL THAT piece and parcel of land - Mauza - Juna Bilaspur, Khadra No. from 43/2, sheet no. 15, Block no. 8 Plot No. - from 19/3 PHN. 22/34, RNM Block - Bilha, ward no. 32, Basant Bgai Patel Nagar, Tehsil & District - Bilaspur, Area - 1034 Sq Ft. East - Land of Sumitra Dewangan West - Land of Rajendra Tiwari North - 15 Ft Road	16/09/2020 For Rs. 30,11,541 (Rupees Thirty Lakhs eleven thousand Five hundred and forty one only)	22/01/2021
Mr. Dhuranlal Kharole (Principal Borrower) Mrs. Nirmal Kharole (Co-Borrower)	ALL THAT Part and piece of the property is situated at Mauja - Gudyari, Patwari Halka no. -107, RIC - Raipur 1, Tehsil & Dist Raipur (C.G). Ramkrishna Paramhans ward no. 2 column no. 7 Ashok Nagar, Khadra No. 837/1, ad measuring area 1000 Sq Ft. or 92.93 Sq Mtr. Boundaries - North: Road , South Land of Jamabai , East : Remaining Land of seller West : Land of Motilal Kedia	16/09/2020 For Rs. 16,50,208/- (Rupees Sixteen Lakhs Fifty Thousand and two hundred eighty only)	23/01/2021
Mr. Ranjana Gupta (Principal Borrower) Mr. Manaharanlal Gupta (Co - Borrower)	ALL THAT piece and parcel of village ward no. 8, Pityajhar PH No. 81, RIC - Mahasamund, Tehsil - Mahasamund, Dist - Mahasamund (C.G), Khadra No. 924/1 Ka, 1325 Sq Ft. Boundaries - East - Remaining land of seller, West - 13 Ft Gali, South - Remaining land of seller, North-Remaining land of seller,	16/09/2020 For Rs. 38,45,657 (Rupees Thirty eight lakhs forty five thousand six hundred and fifty seven only)	20/01/2021
Mr. SHUBHDEEP ROY (Principal Borrower) Mrs. Sandhya Roy (Co-Borrower) Mr. Nitu Roy (Co-Borrower)	ALL THAT piece and parcel of land Khata no. 699, Khadra no.429/19 & 431/32 ad measuring 1705 Sq ft. part , mouza - Bhanpuri (Vijay Nagar), Yatiyan ward no. 04, kandika no. 04, P.H.No. 108/39, RIC - Raipur 1, Tehsil & Dist - Raipur (C.G) Boundries - East - Land of Santosh Yadav, West - Land of Arang Timber South - Land of Mahadev Timber, North - Road	16/09/2020 For Rs. 10,82,372 (Rupees Ten Lakhs eighty two thousand three hundred and seventy two only)	19/01/2021
Mr. Goverdhan Adil (Principal Borrower) Mrs. Pinki Adil (Co - Borrower)	ALL THAT Part and piece of the property situated at Mauza Village - Shankar Nagar Ward, Patwari Halka No. 63, RIC - Raipur, Tehsil & Dist Raipur (C.G), Khata No. 1365 part 4, Khadra No. 1305, Ad measuring area - 1721 Sq Ft, Nagar Boundries - East - Khadra No. 277,278,290,291, West - Road, South - Property of Mandal Dewangan North - Property of Johan Lal	16/09/2020 For Rs. 15,08,035 (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Eight Thousand and thirty five only)	19/01/2021
Mrs. MANISHA ANAND (Principal Borrower) Mr. Akshya Dhaswan (Co - Borrower)	Kh. No- 24412, Area 1050 Sq. Ft. Situated at Tikarpura, P.C. 114, RIC - Raipur 2, Pt Motilal Neharu Ward No 49, Tah & Dist- Raipur (C.G.) Boundaries - East - Other's Land, West - 10 Ft Wide Road, South - House of Pathare, North - House of Patel	05/01/2020 For Rs. 70,53,068/- (Rupees Seventy Lakhs Fifty three thousand and sixty eight Only)	19/01/2021

STATUTORY NOTICE TO BORROWERS/GUARANTORS

Borrower(s)/Guarantors are hereby put to caution that the property may be sold at any time hereinafter by way of public auction/tenders and as such this may also be treated as a notice under Rule 6, 8 & 9 of Security (Interest) Enforcement Rules, 2002. The detailed inventory and Panchama could not be recorded due to obstructions as such the property has been photographed.

Place: Raipur & Bilaspur, Date: 26-01-2021
Authorized Officer , Hinduja Housing Finance Limited

CM dedicates auditorium, trauma centre in Bastar



STAFF REPORTER ■ JAGDALPUR

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Monday dedicated an auditorium and a trauma centre in Bastar district where he is on a two-day visit. He also announced developmental works during a public meeting.

The newly constructed auditorium and trauma centre of the Medical College at Jagdalpur cost ₹8.63 crores and ₹6 crores respectively.

He carried out public dedication and foundation stone laying of 51 development and construction works at an estimated cost of ₹156.46 crores, an official communique said.

Addressing the public meeting, he announced construction of a mini stadium at village Kukanar, a High

School building at Bade Kilepal and Harrakoder, development of tourism in Tamdaghumar and Mendrighumar along with tourist facilities, construction of 8 km of Kodnali route, establishment of minor forest produce based industries, new 'Kisan Bhavan' at Bastanar and Darbha, an indoor stadium at Usribeda and a rest house at Chitrakote.

The Chief Minister also unveiled a bullock cart made of bronze in the premises of Maa Danteshwari Airport at Jagdalpur.

He dedicated the Lala Jagdalpuri District Library at Jagdalpur and took selfies with children and others.

To the delight of everyone, Baghel played cricket at the Hataa Ground during its dedication ceremony. He both batted and bowled.

CM to unfurl tricolour in Jagdalpur

RAIPUR: On the occasion of 72nd Republic Day, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel will unfurl the tricolour in Bastar district's headquarters Jagdalpur. Assembly Speaker Dr Charandas Mahant will hoist the national flag in Janjgir-Champa district. This year, Parliamentary Secretaries along with state Ministers have been made the Chief Guests for various programmes to be held on Republic Day on January 26. Also, Governor Anusuiya Uikey will hoist national flag in Raipur.

Voters must elect virtuous candidate: Chief Lokayukta

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

The Chief Lokayukta of Chhattisgarh Public Commission, Justice (Retd) T.P. Sharma, said on Monday that voters should recognize the value of their vote and choose a virtuous candidate in elections.

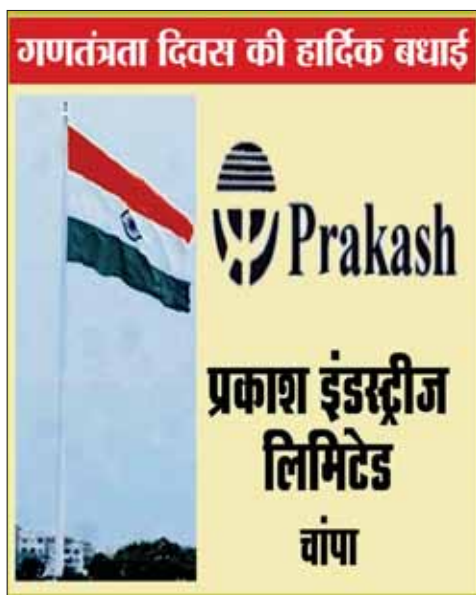
He was addressing a programme on the occasion of National Voters Day at the Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (IGKV) in Raipur.

He asked the electorate to vote fearlessly without any

pressure or temptation. Sharma distributed voter ID cards (EPIC cards) to new voters.

He congratulated the officials and employees for successfully conducting the Marwahi Assembly by-election during the Corona period.

Sharma said: "When officers and employees are determined to conduct elections in difficult circumstances, we should also be determined to cast our vote." State level awards were distributed on the occasion for outstanding work related to elections.



AM/NS INDIA



ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India Limited

**We wish you all a
Happy Republic Day**

From

AM/NS India

Beneficiation Plant, Kirandul



हमारे लिए नए सिरे से इतिहास शुरू हो गया है
इस इतिहास को हम बनाएंगे और दूसरे लिखेंगे
— पं जवाहर लाल नेहरू



**हमारा संविधान
हमारा अभिमान**

प्रदेशवासियों को

गणतंत्र दिवस

की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

धान खरीदी का बना इतिहास

गणतंत्र दिवस इस बार ज्यादा खास



श्री भूपेश बघेल
माननीय मुख्यमंत्री, छत्तीसगढ़

Centre denies TMC claim of 'wrong' Bose portrait



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Monday refuted the claim that the portrait of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose unveiled by President Ram Nath Kovind in 'Rashtrapati Bhavan' was "fake" and that of Bengali actor Prosenjit Chatterjee, who had played the role of Bose in a film.

This is yet another controversy over which BJP and TMC have clashed with each other as the latter charged the former with showing disrespect to 'Netaji'.

Terming the debate as "fake", the Central Government clarified that the portrait of Netaji in 'Rashtrapati Bhavan' is based on an original photo of the freedom fighter. "Shows how the entire debate is fake and based on poor research," the Government said.

President Kovind on January 23 unveiled a portrait of Bose at the Rashtrapati Bhavan to mark the beginning of celebrations to commemo-

rate the freedom fighter's 125th birth anniversary.

TMC MP Mahua Moitra, however, claimed on Twitter that there was a mix-up and that the portrait unveiled by the President was not of Netaji but of actor Prosenjit.

Actor Prosenjit played Bose in a 2019 Bengali film Gumnaami, which deals with the freedom fighter's death mystery.

The 'Gumnaami Baba', who lived in an out-house of 'Ram-Bhawan' at Faizabad, UP, since 1983, died in 1985, without anyone, outside his close followers, ever seeing him.

It is claimed by some that he was Netaji himself living in anonymity. After his death, bundles of The Pioneer daily, besides other things, were also reportedly recovered from his mysterious dwelling.

The TMC MP not only attacked the Central government over the alleged faux pas but also had a dig at the President. The TMC MP tweeted, "After donating ₹5

lakh to the Ram temple the President honours Netaji by unveiling a portrait of Prasenjit, the actor who played him in biopic, God Save India (because this government certainly can't)," Moitra said.

According to an official statement, the portrait of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was unveiled at the 'Rashtrapati Bhavan' to mark the beginning of year-long celebrations to commemorate his 125th birth anniversary.

The Government has decided to observe January 23 as "Parakram Divas" to commemorate the birth anniversary of Bose, who was born on this day in 1897.

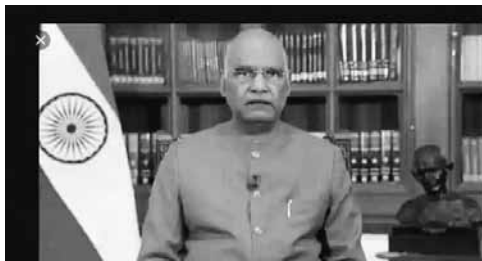
BJP sources said the photo was provided by Netaji's family to famous Padma Shri award-winning artist Paresh Maity, who painted the portrait. "The photo does not resemble Prosenjit at all. It is an unnecessary controversy," the sources said.

Chandra Kumar Bose, Netaji's grand-nephew and a member of the BJP, also posted on the micro-blogging site that the portrait was based on the leader's original photograph.

In fact, Prosenjit also himself tweeted to put the controversy to rest: "Would like to congratulate Paresh Maity for the wonderful piece of art in remembrance of our National hero Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. As an Actor, I'm elated that people thought, that the painting resembles my character in Gumnaami."

TMC MP Moitra has since deleted her tweet.

Govt dedicated to farmers' welfare despite misapprehensions: Prez



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

President Ram Nath Kovind on Monday paid tributes to farmers saying every Indian is grateful to them for ensuring food security in our vast and populous country, and gave the assurance that the Government is devoted to farmers' welfare.

"Every Indian salutes our farmers, who have made our vast and populous country self-reliant in food-grains and dairy products. Despite adversities of nature, numerous other challenges and the COVID-19 pandemic, our farmers sustained the agricultural production," he said in his address on the eve of the 72nd Republic Day.

"A grateful nation is fully committed to the welfare of our farmers. Just as our hardworking farmers ensure food security for the country, the brave soldiers of the armed forces ensure security of our national boundaries amid severest conditions," Kovind said.

The comments by the President come against the backdrop of the ongoing agitation by farmers against three new farm laws.

The President said the path to reforms in the initial stages may cause misapprehensions, but the government is devoted to farmers' welfare.

"Economic reforms have continued apace and have been supplemented by long-pending reforms in the areas of labour and agriculture through legislation. The path to reform at the initial stages may cause misapprehensions.

However, it is beyond doubt that the government remains singularly devoted to farmers' welfare," he said.

Kovind said the country's farmers, soldiers and scientists deserve special appreciation and the entire nation is grateful to them.

"From space to the farms, from educational institutions to hospitals, the community of scientists has enriched our life and work. Our scientists have been working day and night for decoding the Coronavirus and they have succeeded in developing the vaccine in record time. With this accomplishment, our scientists have added a glorious chapter of contribution to the well-being of humanity.

Modi lauds children's role in raising awareness about handwashing during Covid

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday lauded the contribution of children in raising awareness about handwashing during the Covid-19 pandemic, and said that a programme tastes success if they become part of it. In an interaction with the 'Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar' awardees via video conferencing, Modi praised the winners and said they should never stop working and stay humble all the time.

Thirty-two children have been chosen for the Pradhan Mantri Bal Puraskar this year for displaying valour, exceptional abilities and outstanding accomplishments in various fields, including arts, culture, archery and swimming.

Modi asked them to work for the country, urging them to think of what they can do as the nation approaches the 75th year of its Independence. The Prime Minister also asked them to read biographies and said it will keep inspiring them. Union Minister Smriti Irani also inter-

acted with the children.

Jyoti Kumari, 16, cycled to her native place Darbhanga district in Bihar from Gurgaon in Haryana covering around 1,200 km with her father on the rear carrier amid the nationwide lockdown in May last year. She has been awarded for her bravery. "During the COVID-19 lockdown, she traversed 1,200 kms from Sikandarpur in Bihar to reach home," the citation issued for her by the Women and Child Development Ministry said.

207 get police bravery medals, 89 President's police medals for excellent services

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

CRPF Assistant Sub Inspector (ASI) Mohan Lal who "chased and fired" at an explosives-laden car that rammed into a force bus in Pulwama killing him and 39 troops onboard in 2019 has been decorated with the highest police medal for gallantry on the eve of the Republic Day on Monday. A total of 207 police bravery medals were declared by the Government apart from 89 President's police medals for distinguished service and 650 police medals for meritorious service, as per a list published by the Union Home Ministry.

Only two police personnel have been decorated with the top category President's Police Medal for Gallantry (PPMG) this time, CRPF's Lal and late Jharkhand Police ASI Banua Oraon. As many as 205 personnel have been decorated with the second-highest police medal for gallantry or the PMG. 50-year-old ASI Lal was the picket commander of the CRPF road opening party deployed on February 14, 2019 at milestone number 272 near the BSNL Tower in Lethpora, Pulwama on the Jammu-Srinagar highway when the dastardly terror attack was carried out by the Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorist outfit.

The attack car was being driven by suicide bomber Adil Ahmed Dar with about 200 kgs of explosives inside. The CRPF said Lal, after passing of few vehicles of the cavalcade, noticed this car "running alongside the convoy and trying to enter between the convoy vehicles." The brave official "signalled and chased the car to stop but could not match its speed." "Ultimately, finding no other option, he fired towards the suspicious car to stop but the car rammed into a nearby running CRPF bus and a huge blast took place," the force said. The massive blast killed a total of 40 CRPF personnel, 39

on the bus and Lal, it said. The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), the lead force for anti-Naxal operations and counter-terrorist operations in Jammu and Kashmir, also led the gallantry medals tally with a total 69 medals (1 PPMG and 68 PMG) followed by 52 earned by the JK Police, 20 by the Border Security Force, 17 by the Delhi Police and 13 by Maharashtra Police and others. Two personnel of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) force, tasked to guard the Line of Actual Control with China, have also been given the police medal for gallantry.

Deputy Commandant Rajesh Kumar Luthra has been decorated for displaying courage and presence of mind to defuse a faceoff with Chinese troops at Ladakh in July, 2019 while another officer of the border guarding force, Assistant Commandant Anurag Kumar Singh, has been given a gallantry medal for the second time for undertaking a counter-terrorist operation in Jammu and Kashmir in 2017.

The other recipients from ITBP include Inspector General (IG) Deepam Seth, awarded the meritorious service medal, and Deputy IG (veterinary) Sudhakar Natarajan who has been bestowed the distinguished service medal. Seth, a 1995-batch Indian Police Service officer of Uttarakhand cadre, is heading the ITBP northwest frontier formation based in Ladakh since mid-2019.

Delhi Police officer Mahesh Bhardwaj, deputed as Senior Superintendent of Police in the CBI to probe extrajudicial killings in Manipur, has been awarded the President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service on the occasion of Republic Day. Bhardwaj, who joined Delhi Police as Assistant Commissioner in the year 1993, has worked extensively with United Nations Police,

Andaman Nicobar and Mizoram police, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). In February, 2018, he was deputed in the CBI on the direction of Supreme Court to associate with the investigation of alleged extra judicial killings and human rights violations by security forces in Manipur.

BSF's Assistant Commandant Gajender Singh, ASI Braj Kishore Yadav, Constables Amresh Kumar and Abhijit Nandy were awarded gallantry awards posthumously. Gallantry awards were given to DIG Surjeet Singh Guleria, DIG Hari Lal and Assistant Commandants Raman Gupta and Prateek Vashishth. Medals for distinguished service were awarded to DIGs Umesh Kumar Nayal, Surjit Singh, Dharmendra Pareek, Ajit Kumar Tete and Ranveer Singh Shaktawat.

Officers and personnel of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) have been awarded with the prestigious 'Police Medal for Meritorious Service' on the occasion of Republic Day-2021. The Police Medal for Meritorious Service is awarded to the personnel of Central police and security organization who have completed a minimum service of 18 years. The medal is awarded to personnel for their commendable work whether operational or administrative. Love Kumar, Second-in-Command, Surendra Kumar, Assistant Commandant, Inspector Ramakant Singh and Assistant Sub-Inspector Moenuddin Khan have been awarded with the 'Police Medal for Meritorious Service' in recognition to their outstanding services. So far 10 NDRF Officers/personnel have been awarded with President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service and 74 personnel with Police Medal for Meritorious Service, said NDRF in statement.

Successful conduct of polls during pandemic extraordinary feat of our democracy: Kovind

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

President Ram Nath Kovind on Monday termed the successful conduct of elections during pandemic an extraordinary achievement of our democracy and said that the right to vote must be respected, noting that people around the world have struggled a lot to earn this right.

Addressing through virtual mode an event to celebrate the 11th National Voters' Day, Kovind said even in America, one of the leading democracies in the world, people had to undertake decades of struggle to get this right. In

Britain, women got the right to vote after a long fight, he said.

The condition was similar in India before Independence. But after India earned its freedom, anyone of 21 years of age and above were allowed to vote which was later reduced to 18, he said. "We should always respect the valuable right to vote. The right to vote is not a simple right. People around the world have struggled a lot for this. Since Independence, our Constitution has given equal voting rights to all citizens without any discrimination on the basis of merit, religion, race, caste," Kovind said.

For his part, Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad defended the Electronic Voting Machine, describing it as an instrument designed to empower the ordinary Indian. "We can have difference of opinion on the use of electronic voting machine. But can we deny that the EVM is an instrument which has given power to nearly all the political formations of India in different parts, in varying degree," he asked. Opposition leaders including Jairam Ramesh of Congress and Derek O'Brien of the Trinamool Congress were present when Prasad made these remarks.

Some parties have on multiple occasions questioned the reliability of the EVMs. The Election Commission has all along maintained that the machines are tamper-proof. Prasad also launched the e-EPIC programme and distributed e-EPICs and Elector Photo Identity Cards to five new voters. Three publications were also launched by Prasad.

Modi's silence on Chinese intrusion lifts enemy's spirits: Rahul



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Monday lashed out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi stating that his alleged silence over the Chinese encroachment in the country's border, was increasing the enemy's spirits.

Taking to Twitter, former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi stated that China is expanding its occupation into the Indian territory, while the Prime Minister has not said the word 'China' for months. Slamming PM Modi, the Congress leader said, "Mr 56-inch," who had promised to never compromise the border security, could start by saying the word 'China'.

Congress chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala also attacked the Prime Minister, stating that his alleged silence over the Chinese encroachment in the country's border, was increasing the enemy's spirits. He called on the government to come to clear the situation along the border and to take the nation in confidence.

Historical mistake corrected on Dec 6, 1992: Javadekar on Ram temple

New Delhi: Foreign invaders chose Ram temple for demolition because they knew that the soul of India resides there, said Union Minister Prakash Javadekar on Sunday.

Speaking at a felicitation event for donors of Shri Ram Janam Bhoomi Mandir Nidhi Samarpan Abhiyan in Delhi, the Union Minister said that a "historical mistake" was corrected on December 6, 1992, with the demolition of Babri Mosque in Ayodhya.

When foreign invaders like Babur came to India, why did they choose the Ram temple for demolition because they knew that the soul of the country resides in Ram temple.

NORTHERN RAILWAY	
TENDER NOTICE	
Invitation of tender through E-Tendering (e-Procurement Systems)	
NIT No.	116-S/AMC/TSS/CMS Equipments/M-1/2020(Ret-II)
Name of work and its location	"CAMS for Integrated Terminal Support System Equipments (Hardware) for Computerized Crew Management System application over Delhi division at Jakhal, Jind, Rohtak, Shakurbasti, Delhi Sarai Rohilla, Delhi Main and Meerut City Stations on various Diesel Lobbies and DRM's office for the period of Two years from the Date of Execution" from OEM (M/s acer only) or Authorised Dealer of M/s "acer" only as per scope of work.
Approx Cost of work	Rs. 14,53,200/- (Fourteen lakh Fifty Three Thousand Two Hundred only) plus GST as applicable
Earnest Money	Rs. 29,100/-
Completion period of work	Two years i.e. 24 months from the date of execution of work
Cost of tender document on cash/by post	Rs. 2360/- with GST @18%
Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 12.00 hrs on 22.02.2020 Opening of Tender at 12.15 hrs
Website particulars under board location complete details of tender can be seen	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in
No.: 116-S/AMC/TSS/CMS Equipments/M-1/2020 (Ret-II) Dated: 25.01.2021 193/2021	

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby informed that my client Mrs. Manoj Kumar Thakur W/o Sh. Binod Kumar Thakur & Mr. Binod Kumar Thakur S/o Sh. Binod Kumar Thakur is intending to mortgage Residential Plot land area measuring 50'x112' 5" Sq. Yards (i.e. 101.17 Sq. Meters, Khassra No. 77, Situated in the Village Halabatur, Pargana & Tehsil Dadr, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P., by availing loan from M/s. Vidar Financial Services Pvt. Ltd. and have assured that title in respect of the aforesaid Property is free from all encumbrances of whatsoever nature. Further, the Original Sale Deed 18.01.2011 regd. Vide doc. No. 411 pertaining to the aforesaid property has been lost and complaint bearing no. GD-41 has been registered on 04.01.2018 with U.P. Police.

If any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim in this property, then contact us within 7 days from date of this notice on Email: deepveer@vidar.com or contact M/s. Vidar Financial Services Pvt. Ltd., office at: C-53 2nd floor above dera bank Phase 1, 110091, Shashi Garden, Mayapuri, New Delhi, Delhi 110091, failing which, it will be assumed that there are no claims or issues in respect of the aforesaid property.

Anshu Dha (Advocate)
Chamber No. 830, PNC, New Delhi - 110091

Chola
Enter a better life

CHOLAMANDALAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED
Corporate Office: 1st Floor, 'Dare House', No.2, N.S.C. Bose Road, Chennai - 600 001.
Branch Office: 1st & 2nd Floor, Plot No.6, Main Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110 005.

POSSESSION NOTICE Under Rule 8 (1)

WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 hereinafter called the Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(1)(2) read with Rules 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notices calling upon the borrowers, whose names have been indicated in Column (B) below on dates specified in Column (C) to repay the outstanding amount indicated in Column (D) below within interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers in particular and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties mortgaged with the Company described in Column (E) herein below on the respective dates mentioned in Column (F) in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the Act read with Rule 9 of the Rules made there under.

The borrowers in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties mentioned in Column (E) below and any such dealings will be subject to the charge of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited for an amount mentioned in Column (D) along with interest and other charges.

Under section 13 (8) of the Securitisation Act, the borrowers can redeem the secured asset by payment of the entire outstanding including all costs, charges and expenses before notification of sale.

S.L. No.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF BORROWER & LOAN ACCOUNT NUMBER	DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE	OUTSTANDING AMOUNT	DETAILS OF PROPERTY POSSESSED	DATE OF POSSESSION
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)
1.	(Loan No. X0HEDHE0000922010 & X0HEDHE00001202326) 1. Rahul Aravay, 2. Praveesh Rajput, 3. Yash Pal Singh, II, No.165, First Floor, Block B, Hari Nagar, Delhi - 110 028.	20/02/2020	Rs. 38,93,975.31/- as on 20/02/2020	Entire First Floor without roof rights of Property No. B-165, area measuring 110 sq.yds out of Khassra No. 2012, situated at village Tihar Colony known as Hari Nagar Clock Tower New Delhi	23/01/2021

Date: 23.01.2021
Place : Delhi

Authorised Officer
M/s. Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **Raghav Prasad S/o Budhi Ram R/o K-122/5, Prem Nagar-II, Kirari Suleman Nagar, Delhi-110086**, Sever all relations and debar, disowned his son **SANDEEP KUMAR** from all his movable and immovable properties due to disobedience and out of control. my client will not be held responsible for his any acts/deeds in future.

ADVOCATE NITIN KUMAR SENGAR
Ch.No. 27, Gajandand Block, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

ICICI Bank

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

PUBLIC NOTICE
Builder Cancellation

This is to bring to your notice that below (borrower/s) has/ have Home loan facility wide facility agreement number and address below mentioned. The borrower/s has/ have failed to pay the contractual amount to the builder as per the terms and conditions of the agreement.

The Bank has informed the same to the borrower through letter dated **DECEMBER 26, 2018** informing that, **EARTHCON** has cancelled the allotment of the above mentioned property. You are therefore requested to resolve this matter with the builder within 7 days from the date of this publication.

Please take further notice that post cancellation of the allotment of the said property (ICICI Bank shall not be bound and/or responsible for the any allotment done by the builder.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Property Address
1.	Avinash S Dixit, Aarti Dixit LBN000002283212	Flat No. B- 607 6th Floor Earthcon Casa Grande Plot No. 7a Sector Chiv Greater Noida 201307

Dated: January 25, 2021
Place: Delhi/NCR

For ICICI Bank Limited
Sd-

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

President Ram Nath Kovind on Monday awarded Padma Vibhushan

awards to seven eminent persons including late singer SP Balasubramanian and Japan's former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and noted archeologist B.B.Lal who headed excavation of Ayodhya. Others are famous doctor BM Hegde, spiritual leader Maulana Wahiduddin Khan, artist Sudarshan Sahoo and US based scientist late Narinder Singh Kapany.

10 persons were awarded Padma Bhushan including late Chief Ministers of Gujarat and Assam Keshubhai Patel and Tarun Gogoi and former Union Minister late Ram Vilas

Paswan. Former Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan and Nripendra Misra, former Principal Secretary of Prime Minister. Other who got Padma Bhushan are Tarlochan Singh, former Chairman of Minorities Commission, spiritual leader late Kalbe Sadiq, noted singer K.S. Chitra Chandrasekhar Kambara, writer from Karnataka and industrialist RD Shroff.

102 persons are awarded Padma Shri. "This year the President has approved conferment of 119 Padma Awards including 1 duo case (in a duo



case, the Award is counted as one) as per list below. The list comprises 7 Padma Vibhushan, 10 Padma Bhushan and 102 Padma Shri Awards. 29 of the awardees are women and the list also includes 10 persons from the category of Foreigners/NRI/PIO/OCI, 16 Posthumous awardees and 1 transgender awardee," said Government in a statement.

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that my client Mr. Sandeep Giri S/o Mr. Chinta Prasad Giri has purchased the Flat No. SF-3, Second Floor, (near LHS), Plot No. 107-C, Shalimar Garden Ext-II, Village-Pasoda, Ghaziabad from its owner Mr. Rajeev Aggarwal. Initially the subject plot was in the name of Mr. Deep Chand Kapoor, who executed a registered Will dated 22.05.2007 in favour of Mr. Hitesh Chand Kapoor, later on Mr. Deep Chand Kapoor died. There is no Survivor Certificate of Late Deep Chand Kapoor and Probate Order of Will dated 22.05.2007 is on record.

Any person having any claim in respect of the above mentioned property thereof by way of inheritance, transfer, mortgage, or otherwise, whatsoever, are requested to inform the same in writing with documentary evidence to the undersigned on below mentioned address within 14 days from the date of publication hereof together with copies of all documents on the basis of which claims are made, failing which any such right, title, interest, or claim, if any, will be deemed to have been waived and not binding on our Clients.

C.K. JHA (Advocate)
E-524, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi-110032, (M) - 9811295674

Office Of Municipal Commissioner, Nagar Nigam, Haridwar

PH: 01334-227006 Email: nagamnigamharidwar@gmail.com

Letter 3110 dated: 25/01/2021

Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)

Office of Municipal Commissioner, Nagar Nigam, HARIDWAR on behalf of "Governor of Uttarakhand" invites following short term re-tender under two bid system through E-tendering Process. Detailed eligibility criteria, EMD, ITB, and other terms & conditions of the tender document can be seen at <https://uktenders.gov.in>. Any amendment in future against the tender shall be uploaded on <https://uktenders.gov.in>

Time schedule	Supplying Vehicles and machinery for collection & transportation of solid waste at Haridwar during Maha Kumbh 2021.
Document Download Start Date	26.01.2021 at 1000 hrs
Proposal Due Date	02.02.2021 up to 1500 hrs
Opening of Technical Bids	02.02.2021 at 1600 hrs
Cost of Tender Document	INR 5900/-

Municipal Commissioner, Nagar Nigam, Haridwar

Netaji insulted, I was teased: Mamata

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Two days after the Victoria Memorial incident when Mamata Banerjee refused to deliver a speech after being allegedly "teased" with Jai Shri Ram slogans by BJP supporters the Bengal Chief Minister on Monday attacked the saffron leadership for not only insulting her but also Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in whose remembrance the grand event was organized by the Union Government. The programme was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Lashing out at the BJP Banerjee said "Netaji stood for communal unity ... he belonged

to everyone ... but what BJP supporters did in a bid to tease me in front of the Prime Minister has not only insulted me but also Netaji and Bengal."

Terming the BJP as Bharat Jalao Party (Burn India Party) Banerjee said that the BJP has been continuously insulting the icons of Bengal, Netaji being the "latest addition to the list." She had earlier flayed the BJP national president JP Nadra for insulting Rabindranath Tagore by wrongly quoting his place of birth and the saffron workers for vandalizing the statue of 19th century reformer Ishwar Chandra Vidya Sagar during a 2019 political rally of Home Minister Amit Shah.

"Will you invite me to your house for a dinner and then slap me and turn me out ... this is what they did ... They shouted slogans --- which had no relation with Netaji's anniversary -- only to tease me... I was insulted in front of the Prime Minister of the country... I was invited to that programme ... This is their culture ... but this cannot be the culture of Bengal or our country," Banerjee said adding she would have not objected had the slogans been raised hailing Netaji.

Major controversy was sparked after Banerjee publicly chased BJP supporters, --- and threatened them with dire consequences --- who raised Jai Shri

Ram slogans when her convoy passed their areas during 2019 general elections.

Attacking the turncoats who were quitting the Trinamool Congress to join the BJP, Banerjee said "these people are leaving the party because they know that they will not get ticket from TMC... I want more such people to quit the party early so that our work becomes easier."

About a dozen TMC ministers, legislators and other functionaries like Suwendu Adhikari, Laxmi Ratan Shukla, Rajiv Banerjee, Sunil Mandal, and others have either quit the Cabinet or the party in the past one month. The "betrayers,"

would never be welcomed back, she said.

The BJP soon hit back at the Chief Minister saying she always failed to appreciate in her urgency to play vote bank politics that Lord Rama had always been an essential part of Indian culture.

"She is known for her earlier reactions to Lord Rama's name ... His name is taken whenever there is a festive occasion ... January 23 was a festive occasion when we were celebrating Netaji ... but she had to appease a section of people for vote bank politics and so this controversy was created ... she could have ignored this," BJP leader Samik Bhattacharya said.

Sasikala to be released from prison on Jan 27: Dhinakaran

Chennai: Expelled AIADMK leader VK Sasikala, serving a jail term in Bengaluru in a corruption case and presently under treatment for coronavirus, will be released from prison on Wednesday "according to all our expectations," her nephew T T V Dhinakaran said on Monday.

With the former aide of late Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa recuperating in a Bengaluru hospital, her discharge from the medical facility will be made known later, he said in a tweet.

"According all our expectations... Chinnamma (Sasikala) will be released (from prison) day after tomorrow, 27-01-2021," Dhinakaran said.

Independent legislator Dhinakaran, Sasikala's nephew and founder of Amma Makkal Munnetra Kazhagam (AMMK) said his aunt was recuperating from coronavirus and that her discharge from the hospital will be made known later after consulting doctors. **PTI**

Navy Commander's daughter among 5 Bal Shakti award winners from Maharashtra

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Kaamya Karthikeyan, the teenaged daughter of Indian Navy Commander S Karthikeyan and Lavanya, is among the five children from Maharashtra chosen for the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Shakti Puraskar (PMRBSP)-2021 on the occasion of Republic Day.

She is the only girl among five children from Maharashtra who have bagged the PMRBSP-2021 honour for their excellence in different fields. The other award winners are: Shreenabh Muojesh Agrawal, Kameshwar Jagannath Waghmare, Archit Rahul Pani and Sonit Sisolekar. Thirteen-year-old Kaamya is studying in Class VIII of the Navy Children School here. She is awarded for her unprecedented feats in mountaineering and this is the highest award for citizens below 18 years.

Bengal poll: LF, Cong clinch deal for 77 seats

PNS ■ KOLKATA

After failing to clinch a seat-sharing deal in earlier rounds of talks the Left Front and Congress on Monday arrived at an understanding over 77 seats, senior Left leader Biman Bose and his Congress counterpart Pradip Bhattacharya said.

"We have an understanding on 77 seats for the coming Assembly elections and will hold talks on the remaining 217 seats on January 28," the Left leaders said adding by February 2 the seat-sharing talks would be

over.

The Left had won about 7.5 percent vote share while the Congress little more than 5 percent in the 2019 general elections. Meanwhile, the Election Commission of India sources said that 1000 companies of central forces would be sent to Bengal for a peaceful conduct of elections. In 2019 parliamentary polls 700 companies of CPF were deployed.

According to sources the ECI which had a full bench visit of Bengal last week may announces elections in the first half of February.

Rajasthan Govt staff take oath to maintain Covid measures

Jaipur: On Monday, on the occasion of National Voters' Day, Commissioner Mahendra Soni at the Information and Public Relations Headquarters at the Secretariat, said that all the officers and employees of the department are fearless keeping the dignity of democratic traditions and keeping the dignity of free, fair and peaceful elections intact. Sworn to exercise all his franchise without being influenced by class, caste, community, language or any other inducement.

Taking the oath, Covid-19 safety standards were enforced collectively by all officers and employees.



Army helicopter crash in J&K, one pilot dies

Jammu: Indian Army's Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Dhruv made a forced landing after it developed a technical snag in Lakhanpur area of Kathua district late Monday evening. Two pilots received injuries.

One of the two seriously injured pilots succumbed to his injuries in the Military Base Hospital in Pathankot late Monday evening while the condition of the other pilot continues to be critical.

Official sources said the other is struggling for life on the ventilator support. Meanwhile, district authorities in Kathua who rushed to the spot confirmed, the Army helicopter made a forced landing around 7.10-7.15 p.m

inside an Army camp in Lakhanpur.

The district authorities said, "The helicopter was on a routine reconnaissance sortie when it abruptly developed a technical snag and made a forced landing inside an army area in Lakhanpur."

The injured pilots were rushed to the military base hospital in Pathankot. Local media reports claimed eyewitness reports suggested soon after the helicopter took off it crash landed inside the Army camp due to some technical snag. The Army authorities are expected to announce a formal inquiry to ascertain the exact reason behind the forced landing. **PNS**

Farmers could have chosen any other day instead of January 26: Narendra Singh Tomar on tractor rally

New Delhi: Ahead of the tractor rally, Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar on Monday termed the Government's proposal to suspend new farm laws for 1-1.5 years as the "best offer" and hoped that the protesting farmers' unions will soon reconsider it and convey their decision. The Minister also said that the agitating farmers could have chosen

some other day instead of January 26 for the tractor rally.

The talks between the government and 41 protesting farm unions have remained inconclusive even after 11 rounds of discussions.

During the 10th round of talks, the government had climbed down and offered a proposal to keep the new laws in abeyance for 1-1.5 years, but it

was rejected by the unions. In the 11th round of discussion, the government asked unions to reconsider the proposal and convey their final decision. "The government has given the best offer to farmers' unions. I am hopeful that they will convey their decision to us after discussing it among themselves. Once they communicate, we will take it forward," Tomar said. **PNS**

Over 19.5L healthcare workers vaccinated against Covid so far

New Delhi: On the tenth day of the nationwide vaccination against Covid-19 was launched on January 16, as many as 3,34,679 beneficiaries were given the anti-pathogen jab through 7,171 sessions till 7.10 pm on Monday.

As a result, the cumulative number of healthcare workers vaccinated against Covid-19 has crossed 19.5 lakh till date. A total of 19,50,183 beneficiaries (till 7.10 pm today) were vaccinated through 35,785 sessions, as per the provisional report available from the

Union Health Ministry.

Final reports would be completed for the day by late tonight, said an official from the Ministry. On the tenth day, 348 AEFIs have been reported till 7.10 pm following the vaccination drive.

Meanwhile, India's active caseload has fallen to 1.84 lakh (1,84,182) on Monday. The share of active cases in the total positive cases has further shrunk to 1.73 per cent. A bulk of the active cases is contributed by merely two States. **PNS**



A security person stands guard near the Taj Mahal on the eve of Republic Day, in Agra on Monday

PTI

BJP hatching conspiracy to refuse diesel for farmers' tractor rally: Akhilesh

Lucknow: Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav accused the BJP of hatching a conspiracy against farmers by issuing directions for non-provision of diesel for their tractor rally on Tuesday, while the BSP requested the Centre to withdraw the three contentious agriculture laws.

"Today, the Constitution, Republic-Democracy and Independence are in danger," Yadav said in a document titled 'Gantantra Divas Mahaghoshnaa' that was shared by him on Twitter on Monday.

"Got the news that directions have been issued to fuel pumps not to give diesel to tractors in order to stop the farmers from taking out a tractor rally on Republic Day.

The BJP is hatching a conspiracy of the lowest kind against the farmers. If the farmers give a reply to 'Diesel-bandhi' (non-supply of diesel) with BJP's 'naakaabandi' (cornering the BJP), then what will happen?" he said.

In the 'Gantantra Divas Mahaghoshnaa' document, Yadav said, "Today, the Constitution, Republic-Democracy and Independence are in danger. Hence, the SP is going to give a new declaration to face the new challenges with new pledge -- nayee hava hai, nayee SP hai, barho kaa haath, yuva kaa saath."

He said instead of hatred and non-confidence, society, state and the country should be strengthened with mutual love and confi-

dence. "Our inspiration is true development and good work (vikaas sachaa aur kaam achhaa). Peace and harmony are our mantra. We know that without unity, there is no peace, and without peace there is no development."

He said everyone should come together and avoid "misguidance and disorientation (bahkaave-bhaktkaave)" and make every effort for peace and harmony.

Meanwhile, in a tweet in Hindi BSP chief Mayawati said, "The BSP once again requests the Centre to withdraw the three farm laws, so that on January 26 no new tradition gets started. And, as per the Delhi Police's suspicion, no untoward incident takes place." **PTI**

No fresh Covid case in Andamans, tally at 4,993

Port Blair: Andaman and Nicobar Islands did not record a single fresh Covid-19 case in the last 24 hours, a health department official said on Monday.

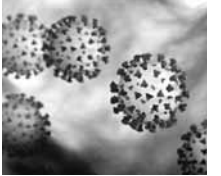
The coronavirus tally in the union territory remained at 4,993, while a total of 62 people have died so far due to the contagion, he said.

One more person was cured of the disease in the last 24 hours, taking the total number of recoveries in the archipelago to 4,908, the official said.

The union territory now has 23 active COVID-19 cases and all the cases are in South Andaman district.

The Andaman and Nicobar administration has conducted 2,13,467 sample tests for COVID-19 so far, and the positivity rate stands at 2.34 per cent, he added.

A total of 2,111 beneficiaries have received jabs of COVID-19 vaccine till January 24 in the union territory, the official said. **PTI**



Kerala Health Minister seeks better local public health to fight epidemics

Thiruvananthapuram: Kerala Health Minister K.K. Shailaja says that improving the public health system and increasing the number of Primary Health Centres is the best way to contain contagious diseases like coronavirus.

In an interview to IANS, she noted that Kerala is still in the process of containing Covid-19 and that the government is on the right track. She said that delaying the peak was one of the strategies and that containing the mortality rate has been a

major achievement for the health workers and the state government.

Following are excerpts of the interview.

Q: Kerala had contained the Covid pandemic and flattened the curve during the early days and you had won accolades from across the globe. However, the situation is turning worse and the state is now at the number one position in the country as far as the daily Covid cases are concerned. Why is this?

A: Kerala did manage

Covid-19 in a systematic and strategic manner and we could contain the disease while it was surging ahead across the globe including in advanced and developed countries like the US, the UK and throughout Europe. During lockdown, we were improving our health facilities, increasing the number of beds, equipping ICUs and all the health infrastructure in general and we were successful.

As of now, there is a surge in the disease as the state has not yet peaked and we are focusing

on delaying the peaking. It is also important to note that the mortality rate of the state owing to Covid is very less compared to developed countries and other states of India.

This was our primary focus and we are successful in that. It may be noted that during peak of the disease in several countries, many people lost their lives and mortality rate was too high... this we could contain and saving lives are more important.

Q: The test positivity rate is

also at a high, rather the highest in the country. What do you say?

A: Test positivity rate is directly proportional to the number of samples tested per day and if there is a surge in the cases, naturally test positivity rate will also increase. However the methods we have adopted will bring results and as I said in my previous answer, we are focusing mostly in preventing the mortality of the patients and to a large extent, we are successful in that. **IANS**

Security beefed up ahead of Republic Day in J&K

IANS ■ JAMMU/SRINAGAR

Security in Jammu and Kashmir was beefed up on Monday to ensure that the 72nd Republic Day functions pass off peacefully a day later in the union territory.

Although authorities maintain that security scenario is more relaxed in J&K in comparison to previous years, a

multi-layered security was put in place, especially in the twin capital cities of Srinagar and Jammu, for the celebrations on Tuesday. Random frisking of passengers and private vehicles, mobile security bunkers, makeshift checkpoints, CCTV surveillance, sniffer dogs, deployment of sharpshooters atop high-rise buildings in close vicinity of the main parade

venues in Jammu and Srinagar among the arrangements made. All entry and exit points to Srinagar were sealed and movement into the city allowed only after thorough checking of vehicles and frisking of occupants.

"Drone surveillance was also mounted to ensure fool-proof security arrangements," a senior police officer said.



Police personnel conduct a march on the eve of the Republic Day in Lucknow on Monday

PTI

WOMAN'S DEATH IN ELEPHANT ATTACK

Kerala village panchayat orders closure of all resorts under its jurisdiction

Wayanad (Ker): A Kerala village panchayat On Monday ordered the closure of all tourist resorts under its jurisdiction, two days after a 26-year-old woman was trampled to death by a wild elephant at a resort here.

Authorities of the Meppadi gram panchayat in Wayanad directed all resorts in the panchayat to close down till further orders, official sources here said.

Shahana, a college lecturer hailing from Kannur district, was attacked around 8 pm at the remote Rain forest resort, located on the forest fringe frequented by wild ele-

phants, on Saturday.

Shahana and two others came out of their tent on hearing a trumpeting sound. While the other two managed to run away to safety, she was killed, police said.

Earlier, district collector Dr Adeela Abdullah had ordered the closure of the Rain Forest resort after she visited the place on Sunday along with the Divisional Forest Officer and the Vythiri Tahsildar.

A scrutiny of documents revealed that the resort had no license. It also did not have any permission from the forest department to set up tents in the resort, which is close to the

forest, or necessary safety measures. The Meppadi gram panchayat president Omana Ramesh also confirmed that the resort had no proper license to function.

In the light of such a breach of rules by a resort, resulting in the tragic death of a tourist, the panchayat council, which met on Monday, decided to order the closure of all resorts functioning in the panchayat.

According to a forest official, district authorities have decided to verify the documents and safety conditions of all the resorts in the neighbouring forest areas in the coming days. **PTI**

Right to vote powerful instrument in people's hands: AP Guv

Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh Governor Biswa Bhushan Harichandan on Monday said that the right to vote, which is a powerful instrument in the hands of people and makes them sentinels of the noble tradition of democracy, should not be exercised just mechanically. "The right to vote is the mother of all political rights provided under the Constitution. Every citizen of the country, including youth, should feel proud of performing their respective Constitutional duties as this will ensure their meaningful participation and significant contribution to the growth of the nation and the society," said Harichandan.

He called for the new and young voters to come forward and actively participate in the

celebration of our democracy and said that the actual participation and exercise of the right to vote would empower and enable youth to contribute for the welfare of the society.

"In a democracy, voters are not subject to any pressure or fear and they are free to choose the candidate of their choice and advised youth to come forward and register themselves as voters once they become eligible," said the Governor at the programme held at the durbar hall in the Raj Bhavan to commemorate the 11th national voters day. K. Vijayanand, chief electoral officer, said that the voters day is being celebrated all over the country with the theme 'make our voters empowered, vigilant, safe and informed'. **IANS**

Happy new R-Day!

Being celebrated in the midst of a raging pandemic, this year's parade will register many firsts

The Republic Day is all about pomp, show and gaiety. Primarily, it showcases India's military might and features its tanks, missiles, torpedoes, submarines, fighter jets and, of course, its men. The event related to the nation's prowess is accentuated by tableaux displaying the rich cultural heritage, diversity, its values, principles, the Government's initiatives and schemes, milestones achieved and the road ahead. However, the 72nd Republic Day, which is being celebrated in the midst of a raging pandemic, will not be the same. It will be a low-key affair marked by several firsts and many first-time misses. First and foremost, there will be no chief guest, making it the first R-Day parade in over 50 years without the presence of the most



important guest; thus making it a bit insipid. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson had been invited as the chief guest but he had to cancel his visit in the backdrop of the outbreak of a new COVID strain at home. Before this, India didn't have a chief guest for the R-Day parade in 1952, 1953 and in 1966. Second, due to COVID restrictions the route of the parade, which begins at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, has been cut short and it will this year conclude at the National Stadium (India Gate) instead of the Red Fort as every year. The soldiers marching down Rajpath would wear masks, as will the spectators. Further, there will be no gravity-defying stunts by the motor-

cycle-borne men and the size of the marching contingents has been reduced from the regular 144 to 96. The veterans' parade has also been cancelled this year due to the pandemic. All this has been done to ensure that the social distancing protocol is adhered to. Even the number of spectators has been brought down to 25,000 from 1.25 lakh last year.

The tableau of the Union Territory of Ladakh will participate in the parade for the first time, featuring the Indian Astronomical Observatory, located at Hanle near Leh, one of the world's highest sites for optical, infrared and gamma-ray telescopes. Among the other firsts will be the participation of the country's first woman fighter pilot, Flight Lieutenant Bhawana Kanth, and a flypast with the newly-inducted Rafale jets that will be part of different formations during the flypast. In yet another first, at least 122 soldiers of the Bangladesh Armed Forces will take part in the R-Day parade. Reportedly, this is only the third time since Independence that a foreign military contingent has been invited to be part of the national parade. The upgraded Schilika weapon system will showcase India's strength in the parade, led by the only woman contingent commander from the Army. In another first, Uttar Pradesh's tableau will showcase a replica of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya. It will also display the culture and tradition related to the ancient temple town. On the other hand, the Republic Day — which is celebrated with patriotism and fervour — will be marred by the farmers' tractor rally on restricted routes inside the Capital.

PICTALK



A worker pastes a sticker on a carpet ahead of the Republic Day parade in New Delhi

AP

Not a one-day wonder

Srishti becoming the Uttarakhand CM for a day is symbolic but let's learn to respect women all other days, too

Days after Kamala Harris assumed charge as the United States Vice-President with many firsts to her credit — the first woman, first coloured person and the first Asian-American to reach that office — 20-year-old Haridwar student Srishti Goswami has become probably the first Indian to take over the chief ministerial reins of any State, albeit for only a day, without winning any election or without being a member of any legislature. Following an initiative by the Uttarakhand State Child Rights Commission, as January 24 is celebrated as the National Girl Child Day since 2008, Srishti held meetings with the State's top bureaucrats and asked the officials to take



steps for checking the migration of youth, especially from the rural areas, and expressed concern over the growing instances of drug peddling in the State. She also instructed the officials to clamp a ban on the sale of tobacco products within a 500m radius from educational institutes. Talking about the inevitable comparisons with Anil Kapoor-starrer *Nayak*, a confident-looking Srishti, whose father is a shopkeeper, said: "He (Anil Kapoor) was a reel-life *nayak*. Here, I became a real-life *nayak*, and I wish to continue on this path by entering politics at some stage."

Of course, the development is largely symbolic and seemingly aimed at wooing the State's women voters. It reminds one of seeking the blessings of very young girls to mark the single day of *kanya puja* towards the end of Navratras. But why stop the deifying at only one day? What's really needed is that we, as a people, treat the fair gender fairly and as an absolute equal. The skewed gender ratio needs to be balanced and improved. Women may be empowered by educating them, not exposing them to discrimination and harassment and trusting them with responsibilities. Give them what they deserve rather than giving them something in charity. There are varied ways to empower women other than symbolically making them the Chief Minister. Though it was done in a noble spirit, the trustees are not authorised to be the owners of a trust. People's representatives had better work for what they are chosen for rather than making attention-grabbing short-sighted moves. Gimmicks don't work anymore. Only performance counts.

In the footsteps of Donald Trump

Under him, America abdicated its role as the beacon of democratic norms. Trumpism may be on the wane there but it is alive and flourishing in India

Former United States President Donald Trump's blatant disregard for all norms of civilised behaviour, his overt racism combined with an outsized ego and the propensity to lie — 21 per day during his term as per *The Washington Post* — are well known. Yet, despite this, or the 400,000 pandemic deaths directly attributable to his lack of leadership, or his futile and rather ludicrous attempts to overturn the election results, he still continues to enjoy the support of approximately 34 per cent of the population as per the latest Gallup Poll.

This is indeed intriguing, and while much of it can be attributed to racism, bigotry and illiteracy, it was his sophisticated use of the media, especially social media, that was probably the game-changer. Unfortunately, while his brash and uncouth ways may have made him a laughing stock internationally, it also made for a very dangerous and unstable world, in which America had abdicated its role as the beacon of democratic norms and human decency. Worse, he became the poster boy for a cohort of other tinpot dictators and autocrats globally, suddenly free to do as they pleased, with little fear of retribution.

"If you tell a lie big enough and keep repeating it, people will eventually come to believe it," said Joseph Goebbels, Hitler's Minister for Propaganda. However, he did add a caveat: "The lie can be maintained only for such time as the State can shield the people from the political, economic and/or military consequences of the lie. It thus becomes vitally important for the State to use all of its powers to repress dissent, for the truth is the mortal enemy of the lie and thus, by extension, the truth is the greatest enemy of the State." It's something every autocrat and dictator instinctively understands.

While swatting flies with a sledgehammer has its advantages, there are those who have understood and utilised the concept of "Zohnerism" to their benefit. The term, coined by journalist James Glassman, refers to "the use of true facts to lead a scientifically and mathematically ignorant public to a false conclusion".

It is derived from the experiment conducted in 1997 by Nathan Zohner, a 14-year-old student, who gathered petitions to ban "DHMO", or Dihydrogen Monoxide, as the basis of his science project, titled "How Gullible Are We?" The experiment involved calling for a cohort of other tinpot dictators and autocrats globally, suddenly free to do as they pleased, with little fear of retribution. It's something every autocrat and dictator instinctively understands.

Trump used this phenomenon to good effect. While established media outlets may not have fully played along, the conservative and extreme Right-wing media outlets, like *Fox News* and *One America News Network*, did broadcast his lies and conspiracy theories with telling effect. The digital social media platforms too, such as Facebook and Twitter, were no less complicit in spreading his message of hate till they finally banned him for inciting violence.

After what we have witnessed during his presidency, it would be fair to say that the American democracy, despite



YET, HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL. AFTER ALL, WE HAVE JUST WITNESSED A YOUNG UNTESTED INDIAN CRICKET TEAM RISE LIKE A PHOENIX FROM THE ASHES OF ITS WORST DEFEAT. WE TOO SHOULD SHUN FEAR AND DO THE RIGHT THING; THE REST WILL FOLLOW.

its deep roots stretching back 244 years, has survived a direct assault on its very foundation by Trump and his acolytes by a hair's breadth. Thanks, in no small measure, to the strength of its democratic institutions and the upstanding character of the people who run these. An outstanding example, but not the only one, being that of former Vice-President Mike Pence, who did not let his unwavering support and loyalty to President Trump get in the way of doing the right thing, despite intense pressure to subvert the constitutional process. The other institution that deserves accolades, surviving with its dignity and reputation intact, was the judiciary. Trump had expected that having appointed a total of 200 Federal Judges with lifetime tenures, including two to the Supreme Court, they would remain beholden to him and act in a manner to support his agenda. He was, therefore, understandably shocked and disappointed when nearly all of his 60-plus challenges to the election results were summarily rejected by the courts, including two by the Supreme Court.

While Trumpism may be on the decline in America, it is alive and flourishing here in India. Make no mistake, the current dispensation — while

more circumspect and less colourful — has been just as damaging for our democracy. Our secular traditions are in tatters, empathetic behaviour forgotten and democratic institutions have all but crumbled, lacking even a shred of credibility. A vast majority of our media have become willing handmaidens of the Government. The military is being incrementally politicised and even our final bulwark, the judiciary, especially the apex court, is perceived to be functioning in tandem with the Government. Worst of all, we have no Opposition leadership worth the name, debilitated by the cancer of dynastic ambition.

Yet, hope springs eternal. After all, we have just witnessed a young untested Indian cricket team rise like a phoenix from the ashes of its worst defeat. Despite being deprived of its charismatic leader, another stepped up from the shadows, doing the impossible and leading the team to victory. Similarly, we too should shun fear and do the right thing; the rest will follow.

(The writer is a military veteran, who is a consultant with the Observer Research Foundation and Senior Visiting Fellow with The Peninsula Foundation, Chennai. The views expressed are personal.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BJP'S POLL GIMMICK IN WEST BENGAL

Sir — The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is playing dirty politics in West Bengal. The party and its leaders are trying to gain sympathy of voters by portaying that they are the only ones who really respect the great Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and his ideology. The visit of the BJP leaders to West Bengal on the 125th birth anniversary of Bose on January 23 was only a political stunt with an eye on the forthcoming Assembly elections. The BJP is reminded of such great leaders only at the time of elections.

The ruling party leaders are trying to fool the people but the voters of West Bengal are wise enough not to fall into their trap. The people have realised that the BJP leaders can go up to any extent just for the sake of winning the elections. The State can even be plunged into widespread violence for the sake of politics. The BJP will gain votes by creating a law and order situation. It is high time that the BJP concentrated on the real issues confronting the State and its people rather than showing off its bogus image. West Bengal is grappling with poverty, unemployment, illiteracy and several other problems besides COVID. Both the Centre and the State Government must focus on the real issues troubling the people and not on poll gimmicks.

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

FARMERS HAVE NO OPTION

Sir — India is all set to witness a majestic march past at the Rajpath and a mammoth tractor rally by the farmers in Delhi on the Republic Day. The farmers' rally will attract wide attention. The farmers have reiterated that repeal of the laws is the only acceptable proposition for withdrawal of the agitation. In fact, the offer of the Government to put the laws on hold for 18 months itself is illogical as the Supreme Court has already stayed their implementation until further orders. However, the court can withdraw the stay soon, and the laws will come into force immediately. Faced with such vagueness, farmers fear

Congress faces Hobson's choice



This refers to the editorial 'Missing cohesion' (January 25). Now it's clear that the tenure of the Congress party's interim president Sonia Gandhi will be longer than that of its last full-time president. The fervid desire of Sonia Gandhi to see her son Rahul, a reluctant politician, at the helm of affairs of the grand old party — and the idea to build the party as an alternative to the mighty Bharatiya Janata

Party (BJP) at the national level is nothing but a joke.

Now, instead of working upon the electoral challenges of the Assembly polls over the next five months, the rank and file of the Congress will be mulling over the direction the party should take in its leadership choices. For a section of the party's workers, the fear of past factionalism in the party makes the Gandhi family an effective glue to bind various factions together and maintain overall discipline.

Even if that comes at the cost of the party being accused of being captive to dynastic politics, the lack of alternative leadership still makes Rahul Gandhi a formidable choice. However, its inability to find an adept leadership is not only pushing the party into irrelevance but also causing a huge void in the Opposition space — giving a free run to the ruling BJP Government at the Centre.

N Sadhasiva Reddy | Bengaluru

that a decision to retreat after accepting the offer could prove costly for them eventually.

An argument advanced against giving legal status to the Minimum Support Price (MSP) is that it would put a heavy burden on the national exchequer. It runs counter to the repeated assertions that farmers are free to sell their produce anywhere in the country. Here, wouldn't the envisioned higher prices for agricultural produce in the market — being 'opened up' now — reduce the dependence on the MSP and lessen the burden on the Budget? Farmers have deciphered the intentions and the arguments.

Haridasan Rajan | Kozhikode

TAKE THE JOB FOR HERD IMMUNITY

Sir — In 2020, all the countries including India faced an unprecedented challenge in the form of the COVID-19 pandemic. In some countries like the UK and the US, Coronavirus is still rearing its ugly head and hospitals are looking like war

zones. It will take some more time for all the countries to recover from the unwelcome guest's impact. At this juncture, the decision to supply millions of COVID-19 vaccines free of cost from India to multiple countries like Bhutan, Nepal, Maldives, Myanmar, Seychelles, Mauritius, Brazil, Morocco and so on is really laudable. The UK, Dominica, South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia and the UAE are some other countries interested in COVID-19 vaccines from India as these vaccines are safe and cost-effective without compromising on safety standards.

India is clearly upstaging China in the COVID vaccines' supply. India is planning to vaccinate its 300 million people, almost the population of the US. Indians should dismiss all their apprehensions in taking vaccine jabs. We must come forward to make the inoculation drive successful.

V Nagendra Kumar | Hyderabad

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com



DEEPAK SINHA

SOUNDBITE

The LDF Government recommending a CBI inquiry against me is a clear case of political vendetta. I and my party colleagues are not afraid of the inquiry.



Former Kerala Chief Minister
—Oommen Chandy



One of the benefits of being 65 is that I'm eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. I got my first dose this week, and I feel great. Thanks to the scientists and all others.

Microsoft founder
—Bill Gates

I know people love me. I get to know about it through social media. Sometimes I feel that the love of the audience is like a fixed deposit with me and I have to pay them back with interest.

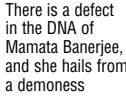


Bollywood actor
—Pankaj Tripathi



The best England players will want to play as many games as possible against India, in India. Pick them! Then they go to IPL and earn everything they deserve.

Former England cricketer
—Kevin Pietersen



There is a defect in the DNA of Mamata Banerjee, and she hails from a demoness culture. No demon can love Lord Ram. Banerjee is a dishonest and evil person.



Uttar Pradesh BJP MLA
—Surendra Singh

FIRST COLUMN

WAKE UP AND SMELL THE COFFEE

The Congress is at a 'historic low.' It will sit in Opposition again if CWC polls are not held soon



KALYANI SHANKAR

Will the Gandhi family continue to control the over 136-year-old Congress Party? Will it shrink further? This are the questions bothering not just Congress leaders but also millions of party workers and supporters. The party is in the grip of a serious leadership crisis that is symptomatic of a larger malaise. Now it has reached a stage where some senior Congress leaders are questioning the dynasty openly. For instance, last August, 23 Congress leaders, including the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Ghulam Nabi Azad, his deputy Anand Sharma and some former Congress Chief Ministers, had written a letter to interim party chief Sonia Gandhi demanding a "full time" leadership, dissolution of power to State units and revamping the Congress Working Committee (CWC) in line with the party's constitution. Though Sonia managed to douse the fire then, the dissent continues, as was confirmed in last week's CWC meeting, where there was a public spat between the 'old guard' and the Gandhis. The leaders realise that just Modi-bashing or the past glory of the party are not enough to get the Congress back in power. Added to that, are concerns over talented leaders leaving the party for greener pastures. For instance, a young leader like Jyotiraditya Scindia, who was close to Congress scion Rahul Gandhi, left the party to join the BJP.

If the Congress is serious about revival, it has to introspect. With the dynasts unable to get the party back to power for two consecutive terms, the family and consequently the party, has become weak. As for the leadership crisis, Sonia has had her innings. Rahul has failed twice and the Priyanka Gandhi Vadra magic has not worked in Uttar Pradesh. Above all, the Gandhis want to continue in power, so there's no possibility of fresh blood leading the grand old party.



So, in order to cure the sickness in the Congress, one has to diagnose the root cause first. While the AK Antony Committee was set up in 2014 for this purpose, the findings of the report were never even discussed in the party. After its loss in 2019, the party didn't even bother to go through the motions of setting up a committee. Then, there is the lack of a smooth generational change in the organisation. While Sonia was able to install her son as the party chief and induct her daughter as general secretary, she could not check the party's erosion or build trust in the apprehensive old guard. When Rahul took complete charge between 2013 and 2019, his evident discomfort with the seniors and the latter's animosity against 'Team Rahul' was very evident. This must change.

Plus, the party must go back to grassroots politics and prepare the cadre, which will work during the elections. This is vital as the Congress has lost contact with the people. Also, there is a need for decentralisation of authority in order to empower State and district-level leaders and give up Delhi-centric functioning. The party must also develop second-rung leaders. There was a time when the States had strong Chief Ministers, and the presidents of various Pradesh Congress Committees (PCCs) wielded power. In such a situation, if the party lost in a region, then accountability could be fixed. That is not the case anymore. Also, in a coalition era, the Congress needs to redefine itself and befriend regional parties. The Gandhis need to change the way they have run the Congress in the last decade or so. They need to create a new narrative to attract voters and redefine the party's ideology. If the Gandhis do not wake up now, the party will deteriorate further. As Azad said, the party is at a "historic low." It will continue to sit in the Opposition for the next 50 years if elections to the CWC and key organisational posts are not held. The Congress must wake up and smell the coffee.

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

Fraternity must to preserve Indian unity

Kinship not only acts as the binding element between unity and equality, it gives birth to new rights which facilitate the constitutional goal of an egalitarian society



ROBIN DAVID

The Indian Constitution came into effect on January 26, 1950 and the Constituent Assembly first met on December 9, 1946 to draft it in the Constitution Hall, now known as the Central Hall of the Parliament. The Constituent Assembly firmly resolved to mould the dreams and aspirations of Indians after the freedom struggle.

Historical background: Since the beginning, the Constitution makers were transparent and knew their purpose and direction. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru while moving the Objectives Resolution in the Constituent Assembly said: "Laws are made of words but this Resolution is something higher than the law." He urged the members of the Assembly to treat the Objectives Resolution as a declaration, an undertaking and a pledge to achieve what they promised the people of India and the yet unborn citizens: A Constitution to call their own.

The Objective Resolution declared India as an independent, sovereign, republic. Pandit Nehru said: "India is bound to be sovereign, it is bound to be independent, and it is bound to be a republic." Clearly, the Constituent Assembly's intention was to end the monarchical system. The debates and deliberations in the House led to the Objective Resolution taking the form of the Preamble of the Constitution. However, the 'Mountbatten plan' divided India into two new dominions on June 3, 1947, causing political changes to the Constituent Assembly. Thus, the Resolution needed amendment to factor in the changed political context.

On August 29, 1947, the Constituent Assembly formed the Drafting Committee, of which BR Ambedkar was the convener. The Drafting Committee rendered meaning and form to the Preamble and incorporated other matters in the body of the Constitution. It took two years, 11 months and 17 days to complete the historic task of drafting the Constitution of India.

Preamble: Ambedkar's new preamble defined the essential features of the Indian State and its socio-political objectives. While drafting the Constitution, the makers imagined an egalitarian society built on the values and the spirit embodied in the Resolution. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava, a member of the Constituent Assembly, said: "The Preamble is the most precious part of the Constitution. It is the soul of the Constitution. It is the key to the Constitution. It is a jewel set in the Constitution. It is a proper yardstick with which one can measure the worth of the Constitution."

The trinity of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity: The egalitarian society the founding fathers envisioned, rests on four pillars established in the Preamble: The pillars of Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. However, the word 'Fraternity' is mentioned in the Constitution only once. Also "Fraternity" and has not occupied much space in judicial discourse by the Supreme Court compared to Justice, Liberty and Equality. The French Revolution inspired the Drafting Committee to adopt the trinitarian concept of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity preceded by Justice. The French were the first to raise the slogan, "Liberty! Equality! Fraternity!" against oppression by the State, to demand political participation and to promote brotherhood. Of the three revolutionary slogans, *fraternité*, called for unity and solidarity, to be bound as citizens of one nation. In his concluding remarks on November 25, 1949, Ambedkar said: "We must make our political democracy a social democracy as well. Political democracy cannot last unless there lies at the base of it social democracy. What does social democracy mean? It means a way of life which recognises liberty, equality and fraternity as the principles of life."

Ambedkar asserted that the principles of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity are to be treated as



FRATERNITY MUST BE SEEN IN THE LAWS AND ENACTMENTS BY PARLIAMENT AND THE LEGISLATURE. FRATERNITY MUST PERCOLATE INTO PEOPLE'S LIVES TO UPHOLD A SENSE OF BROTHERHOOD THAT THE CONSTITUTION MAKERS ENVISIONED FOR INDIA. THE IDEALS OF LIBERTY, EQUALITY AND FRATERNITY ARE COEXISTENT, INTERDEPENDENT AND INSEPARABLE

The writer is Advocate, Supreme Court of India, and partner, Dua Associates. The views expressed are personal.



a trinity and not as separate and mutually exclusive items. They must be seen as enforcing elements that cannot be divorced from each other. He said: "They form a union of trinity in the sense that to divorce one from the other is to defeat the very purpose of democracy. Liberty cannot be divorced from equality, equality cannot be divorced from liberty. Nor can liberty and equality be divorced from fraternity. Without equality, liberty would produce the supremacy of the few over the many. Equality without liberty would kill individual initiative. Without fraternity, liberty would produce the supremacy of the few over the many. Equality without liberty would kill individual initiative. Without fraternity, liberty and equality could not become a natural course of things. It would require a constable to enforce them."

Ambedkar pointed to the existing social and economic inequality in Indian society and the significance of the ideals of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity to eliminate those inequalities. On October 17, 1949, Acharya Kripalani applauded the inclusion of Fraternity in the Preamble. "Again I come to the great doctrine of fraternity, which is allied with democracy. It means that we are sons of the same God, as the religious would say, but as the mystic would say, that there is one life pulsating through us all, or as the *Holy Bible* says, 'We are one of another'. There can be no fraternity without this."

Courts on fraternity: The Bombay High Court in the Indian National Mines Overmen vs Western Coalfields Limited case, challenging the compulsory deduction of ₹50 from the salary/wages of its employees for transfer to the Prime

Minister's National Relief Fund cited the explanation given by Ambedkar on Fraternity. The court said that "fraternity means a sense of common brotherhood of all Indians. In a country like ours with disruptive forces of regionalism, communalism and linguism, it is necessary to emphasise and re-emphasise that the unity and integrity of India can be preserved only by a spirit of brotherhood. India has one common citizenship and every citizen should feel that s/he is Indian first, irrespective of other basis. In this view, any measure at bringing about equality should be welcome." The court relied on 'Fraternity' in the Preamble and Ambedkar's speech on obligations imposed under the Fundamental Duties chapter, which do not otherwise have any legal sanction.

In the Prathvi Raj Chauhan vs Union of India case, addressing the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, Justice Ravindra Bhat of the Supreme Court said that fraternity holds a crucial place in the scheme of our nation's consciousness and polity. However, he said that 'Fraternity' is one of the lesser explored areas in the Constitutional discourse of the judiciary. The court observed that, "The Fraternity assumed by the Preamble is not a declaration of a ritual handshake or cordiality between communities that are diverse and have occupied different spaces: It is far more."

While evaluating the constitutional validity of the appointment of local tribals as special police officers in Maoist-hit regions of Chhattisgarh in the Nandini Sundar vs State of Chhattisgarh case, the apex court stressed on the importance of fraternity. It said, "Our Constitution posits that unless we secure... conditions of

social, economic and political justice for all who live in India, we would not have achieved human dignity for our citizens, nor would we be able to promote fraternity among groups of them. Policies that run counter to that essential truth destroy national unity and integrity." The court said that the Constitution casts a positive obligation on the State to take necessary steps to protect the fundamental rights of all citizens. The State is obliged to secure conditions where dignity of its citizens is protected to enable all to live in conditions of fraternity. Fraternity not only acts as the binding element between unity and equality, it gives birth to new rights which facilitate the constitutional goal of an egalitarian society. The right to live with dignity and respect, free from oppression and untouchability. The fundamental rights granted in the Constitution are structured on the principles liberty, equality, and fraternity. These ideals are inscribed in the Constitution's Preamble. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948, which is contemporaneous with the Indian Constitution, recognises inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family. This is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.

Thus, the Constitutional value of 'Fraternity' must be palpably seen in the actions of the State and Constitutional functionaries. Fraternity must be seen in the laws and enactments by Parliament and the Legislature. Fraternity must percolate into people's lives to uphold a sense of brotherhood that the Constitution makers envisioned for India. The ideals of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity are coexistent, interdependent and inseparable.

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

TESLA HAS TAKEN A MISGUIDED APPROACH TO DEVELOPING FULLY AUTONOMOUS CARS AND ITS FULL SELF-DRIVING SYSTEM WILL FAIL.

—WAYMO CEO JOHN KRAFCIK



TO MY SURPRISE, TESLA HAS BETTER ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE AS COMPARED TO WAYMO (MONEY)

—TESLA CEO ELON MUSK

Heal sick healthcare sector with booster shot in Budget

If the Govt truly seeks to involve private capital, the Union Budget must relax unrealistic price restrictions and nix outdated rules

Now when the Union Budget 2021-22 is around the corner, in the midst of one of the worst public health emergencies faced by humanity in recent memory, it is high time for the healthcare industry to articulate its concerns and expectations. Only a well-formulated and balanced annual financial statement with adequate allocation and focus on all critical segments, as well as on secondary aspects, can prepare the country to improve its health services and meet the challenges of inoculating such a large population as ours.

Need to address poor spending on healthcare: There is an urgent need to raise the allocation on health as a propor-



GURPREET SANDHU

The writer is president, Council of Healthcare and Pharma, and founder Reva Pharma. The views expressed are personal.

tion of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The gap is so large and the population so underserved that this would have to be done for several years in succession to alleviate the situation.

The forthcoming financial statement should focus on significantly higher allocations for Research & Development (R&D) in biotechnology, epidemiology and pharmaceuticals including vaccines and in building healthcare infrastructure. The ongoing pandemic reiterates the need for increased public spending on healthcare which is still in the range of 1.3 per cent of the GDP, far lower than what has been stated and promised.

More allocation must for infrastructure and skill development: It is another key area that the Government should prioritise. India has less than a bed and a doctor per 1,000 population, far lower than the World Health Organisation's (WHO's) standards. We need to invest in setting up an increased number of medical colleges with requisite infrastructure while giving due importance to key departments which play a significant role in preventing infections in hospital environments, apart from the operating rooms and Intensive Care Units (ICUs). There is also a pressing need to contain the problem of antibiotic and antimicrobial resistance for getting the desired



improvement in overall outcomes. If the Centre truly seeks to involve private capital it must relax unrealistic price restrictions and do away with outdated rules. One initiative that can be taken is to ask the medical and pharmaceutical companies to direct their Corporate Social

Responsibility funds for development of healthcare infrastructure and capacity building. **Expansion of digital healthcare must be the focus of the Union Budget:** The country needs connected healthcare — a digital ecosystem where real-time data from top Government and private hospitals and diagnostic centres flows into a data centre that tracks, monitors and predicts changes in disease patterns, so that timely action can be initiated to obviate the expensive follow-on treatment. In this context, the National Digital Health Mission is a step in the right direction. It needs to be strengthened and investments are required to be made to create the infrastruc-

ture and capacity for collecting and analysing data.

Need to expand the ambit of medical insurance: The annual financial statement 2021 also needs to ensure that medical insurance is extended as much as possible to drive the idea of universal healthcare in the country. Treatments like dental procedures, mental healthcare and homecare for the sick need to be included as part of health insurance policies.

Therefore, the Union Budget must be a well-thought out document from the healthcare sector's perspective and the allocation of 1.6 per cent of the GDP in the previous Budget must be improved under all circumstances.

FOREIGN EYE

Stress Inappropriate Promise Physical Contact Remarks Sexual Harassment Effects Women Victims Request Illegal Discrimination

CAUSES AND FAILED ALLIES

Celebrity activism is a misnomer in Pakistan. *MeToo* exposed sexual coercion by media moguls who controlled women's careers and revealed how power of the perpetrator are drivers of sex crimes. Moreover, it is only possible to get justice for the offence in the formal workplace. The exclusion of students and informal workers from protection is a travesty. (Dawn editorial)

House sending Trump impeachment to Senate, GOP opposes trial

Washington: As the House prepares to bring the impeachment charge against Donald Trump to the Senate for trial, a growing number of Republican senators say they are opposed to the proceeding, dimming the chances that former president will be convicted on the charge that he incited a siege of the US Capitol.

House Democrats will carry the sole impeachment charge of "incitement of insurrection" across the Capitol late Monday evening, a rare and ceremonial walk to the Senate by the prosecutors who will argue their case. They are hoping that strong Republican denunciations of Trump after the Jan. 6 riot will translate into a conviction and a separate vote to bar Trump from holding office again.

But instead, GOP passions appear to have cooled since the insurrection. Now that Trump's presidency is over, Republican senators who will serve as jurors in the trial are rallying to his legal defense, as they did during his first impeachment trial last year.

"I think the trial is stupid, I think it's counterproductive," said Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla.. He said that "the first chance I get to vote to end this trial, I'll

do it" because he believes it would be bad for the country and further inflame partisan divisions.

Trump is the first former president to face impeachment trial, and it will test his grip on the Republican Party as well as the legacy of his tenure, which came to a close as a mob of loyal supporters heeded his rally cry by storming the

Capitol and trying to overturn Joe Biden's election.

The proceedings will also force Democrats, who have a full sweep of party control of the White House and Congress, to balance their promise to hold the former president accountable while also rushing to deliver on Biden's priorities. **AP**

Lawmakers threatened ahead of impeachment trial

Washington: Federal law enforcement officials are examining a number of threats aimed at members of Congress as the second trial of former President Donald Trump nears, including ominous chatter about killing legislators or attacking them outside of the U.S. Capitol, a U.S. Official told The Associated Press.

The threats, and concerns that armed protesters could return to sack the Capitol anew, have prompted the U.S. Capitol Police and other federal law enforcement to insist thousands of National Guard troops remain in

Washington as the Senate moves forward with plans for Trump's trial, the official said.

The shocking insurrection at the Capitol by a pro-Trump mob prompted federal officials to rethink security in and around its landmarks, resulting in an unprecedented lockdown for Biden's inauguration.

Though the event went off without any problems and armed protests around the country did not materialize, the threats to lawmakers ahead of Trump's trial exemplified the continuing potential for danger. **AP**

AP source: Biden to drop Trump's military transgender ban

Washington: President Joe Biden is set to issue an executive order to reverse a Pentagon policy that largely bars transgender individuals from joining the military, dumping a ban ordered by President Donald Trump in a tweet during his first year in office, a person briefed on the decision tells The Associated Press.

Biden has been widely expected to overturn the Trump policy in his early days in office.

The White House could announce the move as early as Monday, according to the person briefed on the decision who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the order.

The move to reverse the policy has the support of Biden's newly confirmed defense secretary, retired Army Gen. Lloyd Austin, who spoke of the need to overturn it during his Senate confirmation hearing last week.

"I support the president's plan or plan to overturn the ban," Austin said. "If you're fit and you're qualified to serve and you can maintain the standards, you should be allowed to serve."

The decision comes as Biden plans to turn his attention to equity issues that he believes continue to shadow nearly all aspects of American life. Ahead of his inauguration, Biden's transition team circulated a memo from Ron Klain, now the White House chief of staff, that sketched out Biden's plan to use his first full week as president "to advance equity and support communities of color and other underserved communities."

The move to overturn the transgender ban is also the latest example of Biden using executive authority in his first days as president to dismantle Trump's legacy. **AP**

EU weighs response to Navalny arrest, protest crackdown

Brussels: European Union foreign Ministers on Monday debated the 27-nation bloc's response to the arrest of Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny and a weekend police crackdown that saw thousands taken into custody during protests in support of President Vladimir Putin's most well-known critic.

"This wave of detention is something that worries us a lot, as well as the detention of Mr Navalny," EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said as he arrived to chair the ministerial meeting in Brussels. More than 3,500 people were reportedly taken into custody during the nationwide protests. **AP**

Disinformation being used to interfere in internal affairs of countries: India

PTI ■ UNITED NATIONS

India has called on technology companies to ensure transparency and a check on misinformation on their platforms, cautioning that there is a growing tendency of foreign interference in the internal affairs of other countries through disinformation campaigns.

Addressing the Arria-formula meeting on media freedom in Belarus organised by the Estonian Permanent Mission on Friday, India's Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador K. Nagaraj Naidu said that the information revolution has both benefited and weakened media systems.

"Today, the global economy of

disinformation rests on the complex interaction between data sets, algorithms and information infrastructure built by technology companies. These algorithms govern not just what information is available to different populations, but also to whom, and with what frequency," Naidu said.

"As such, tech companies have the obligation to make sure that the platforms they have deployed are transparent and their users are not misinformed," he said.

Sounding a note of caution, Naidu said there is also a "growing tendency of foreign interference in the internal affairs of other countries through use of disinformation campaigns to advance ulterior political agendas."

Pakistani dissident Baloch activist buried amid tight security

Islamabad: The body of Karima Baloch, a 37-year-old Pakistani dissident from the ethnic Baloch community and a prominent women's rights activist, who died in mysterious circumstances while in exile in Canada, was brought home and buried in her village in the restive Balochistan province amid tight security, officials said on Monday.

Karima, who was highly critical of Pakistan's security agencies and campaigned extensively against disappearances and human rights violations in the troubled Balochistan province, was found dead in Toronto downtown waterfront on December 22.

Officials said that her immediate family was present at the funeral on Sunday in the Tump village of the Keach area of the restive province.

Security was tight due to the fear

of protests by the Baloch nationalists who cherished her as their leader. Her supporters claimed on social media that the village was virtually sealed off so that people from other areas could not attend the funeral.

In some videos, people are seen requesting security forces to allow them to attend the funeral prayers.

Security sources said that the mobile phone services were suspended in the area to avoid any untoward incidents as militants often use it to carry out acts of sabotage.

Toronto police have not treated her death as suspicious though there were allegations by her supporters that she was killed.

Her family members are not sure what happened. According to police in Toronto, her body was found near Lake Ontario, but no further details were given. **PTI**

Biden, Macron vow to strengthen US-France ties in first phone call

Washington: Joe Biden sought to mend and bolster US strained ties with France in his first phone call as American President to his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron, as the two leaders pledged to work together on shared foreign policy priorities, including China, and fight the Covid-19 pandemic and climate change.

Biden called Macron on Sunday and expressed his desire to strengthen bilateral ties. He also stressed his commitment to bolstering the transatlantic relationship, including through NATO and the United States' partnership with the European Union, the White House said.

"The leaders agreed on the need for close coordination, including through multilateral organisations, in tackling common challenges such as climate change, Covid-19 and the global economic recovery," it said in a statement. **PTI**

Mexico's President says he's tested +ve for Covid

Mexico City (Mexico): Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador has said that he has tested positive for Covid-19 and that the symptoms are mild.

Mexico's president, who has been criticised for his handling of his country's pandemic and for not setting an example of prevention in public, said on his official Twitter account that he is under medical treatment.

"I regret to inform you that I am infected with Covid-19," he tweeted. "The symptoms are mild but I am already under medical treatment. **AP**

Biden to sign executive orders to promote 'Made in America' products

Washington:US President Joe Biden will sign a series of executive orders on Monday to promote "Made in America" products and strengthen supply chains, senior officials said, asserting that the new administration remains committed to working with partners and allies to modernise international trade rules.

Prominent among the executive orders include a strict enforcement of procuring products made inside the country by federal agencies. This is very significant given that contracting alone accounts for nearly USD 600 billion in federal spending.

Biden is taking action to reset the US government's longstanding approach to domestic preferences to create an approach that will remain durable for years to come and grow quality, union jobs, according to a senior administration official.

It is long overdue that the US government utilises the full force of current domestic preferences to support America's workers and businesses, strengthening the economy, workers, and communities across the country, the official said.

The President's Executive Order establishes the goals and standards necessary to use federal purchasing, and other forms of federal assistance with domestic preference requirements, as

a way to proactively invest in American industry so it can continue to lead in the global marketplace, the White House said.

For the executive order, Made in America refers to domestic preferences related to federal procurement, federal grants, and other forms of federal assistance. Buy American and Buy America refers to the specific statutes that go by those names, it said.

The executive order to be signed by Biden at the White House, directs agencies to close current loopholes in how domestic content is measured and increase domestic content requirements and appoints a new senior leader in the Executive Office of the President in charge of the government's Made in America policy approach.

This order creates a central review of agency waivers of 'Buy American' requirements, fulfilling the president's commitment to crack down on unnecessary waivers. It also directs the General Services Administration to publish relevant waivers on a publicly available website.

President will continue to be a strong advocate for the Jones Act and its mandate that only US-flag vessels carry cargo between US ports, which supports American production and America's workers. **PTI**

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform public in general that Kotak Mahindra bank ltd has organized an auction in below mention respect of Vehicles.

- ASHOK LEYLAND ECOMET 1212 REG. NO. HR74A1718-YOM -2012
- ASHOK LEYLAND 1214 REG. NO. UP65F3T224 YOM 2017
- VE1110FB EICHR VECV REG. NO. DL1GC4601 YOM 2015
- BHARATBENZ 4928 REG. NO. PB13CB6862 YOM 2016
- CB_VE 11.10 FULLY BUILT REG. NO. HR38S4605 YOM 2013
- ECCO MARUTIS REG. NO. UP 14 GT 9553-YOM -2018
- ECCO MARUTIS REG. NO. UP14GT9555-YOM -2018
- TATA MOTOR LPT 2515 REG. NO. UK04CB1066 YOM 2011
- FORCETTFB FORCE REG. NO. DL1VC2104-YOM -2019
- CB_ALECOMET1214 ASHOK LEYLAND LIMITED REG. NO. HR73 A 1267 YOM 2018
- ALECOM1214 REG. NO. UP 16 ET 3380 -YOM -2017
- EICHR VECVVE1059FB REG. NO. DL1LR9531 YOM 2012
- TATA MOTORS LTD. - TATA 2518 REG. NO. HR38R8727-YOM -2012
- TATA_ACE ZIP_GOODS TATA MOTORS-REG. NO. DL1LAB1922-YOM -2018
- M&M SCORPIO REG. NO. HR42C5661-YOM -2014
- CHEVROLET BEAT REG. NO. HR12AC7393-YOM -2016
- UNDER HYPOTHECATION WITH M/S KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK IS UNDER SALE IN ITS "AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" INTERESTED PARTIES CAN GIVE THEIR QUOTATIONS WITH IN 07 DAYS AT KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK 3RD FLOOR, PLOT NO 7, SECTOR 125, NOIDA-201313 OR CONTACT : RAJESH ANTIL KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LTD. CONTACT: 9711173320

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 Non-movable assets

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(s) 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.	Satyaveer Singh (Borrower), Suman (Co-Borrower) LBDEL00001386142	Flat No.1, 1st Floor Plot No. S-2 BLK- A Shalimar Garden Extn-2 Ghaziabad Area: 748 Sq.Ft	Rs. 32,86,780.5/- (as on January,15, 2021.)	Rs. 16,00,000/- To Rs. 1,60,000/-	February 12, 2021 From 11:00 AM To 01:00 PM	February 25, 2021 From 11:00 AM To 01:00 PM

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link-<https://disposallhub.com>) of our auction agency M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited. The Mortgagors/ 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 there after 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, incase 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/PO should be from a Nationalised/ 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 93727 30494** or **M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited on 9710029933/9810029926/01244233933**

Please note that Marketing agencies 1. **NexXen Solution Private Limited** 2. **Augeo Asset Management Pvt Ltd** 3. **Props AMC** have also been engaged for facilitating the sale of this property. The Authorised 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 25, 2021
Place: Delhi/ NCR

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

INDO COTSPIN LIMITED				
REGD. OFFICE : 78 K.M. DELHI MILE STONE, G.T. ROAD, NH-1, VILLAGE JATTIPUR, POST BOX NO. 3, POST OFFICE SAMALKHA, PANIPAT - 132103 CIN:- L111HR1065PL002541 Website:www.indocotspin.com Email ID:rajpalaggarwal12000@yahoo.com, info@indocotspin.com Statement of Standalone Un-audited Financial Results for the Quarter Ended December 31, 2020				
PARTICULARS	3 MONTHS ENDED	YEAR TO DATE FIGURES FOR FOR CURRENT PERIOD ENDED	CORRESPONDING 3 MONTHS ENDED IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR	
	31/12/2020	31/03/2020	31/12/2019	
	UN-AUDITED	AUDITED	UN-AUDITED	
Total Income from operations (net)	222.84	997.37	391.61	
Net Profit/(Loss) from Ordinary activities after Tax	-13.31	10.64	3.34	
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Extraordinary Items)	-13.34	10.64	3.34	
Paid Up Equity Share Capital Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve as shown in the Balance Sheet of Previous Year)	420.05	420.05	420.05	
Earnings Per Share (before Extraordinary Items) (of Rs. 10/-each) Basic and Diluted (in Rupees)	-0.32	0.25	0.08	
Earnings Per Share (after Extraordinary Items) (of Rs. 10/-each) Basic and Diluted (in Rupees)	-0.32	0.25	0.08	
NOTE: (i) There is no qualification on the Un-audited report for the quarter ended 31st December, 2020. (ii) The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The Full format of the Quarterly Financial Results is available on the Stock Exchange websites: www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com and Telephone:-+91-9896 034879				
For Indo Cotspin Limited Sd/- Bal Krishan Aggarwal Managing Director (DIN:00456219)				
Place: Panipat Date: 25/01/2021				

COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (CSIR)
Anusandhan Bhawan, 2 Rafi Marg, New Delhi-110001

Adv. No. 05/2020 and Adv. No. 06/2020

Advertisement for the positions of Distinguished Scientist and Outstanding Scientist in CSIR

CSIR invites applications/nominations for the posts of Distinguished Scientist in Level 16 (Rs. 2,05,400- 2,24,400) and Outstanding Scientist in Level 15 of pay-matrix (Rs.1,82,200-2,24,100) plus allowances, as applicable in CSIR, from time to time.

For details kindly see the complete Advertisement No. 05/2020 and 06/2020 on CSIR Website www.csir.res.in. Applications/ Nominations with complete biodata and list of publications/ patents etc. may kindly be sent through e-mail on e-mail ID dr@csir.res.in or by post to Director Recruitment Cell, CSIR, Anusandhan Bhawan, 2, Rafi Marg, New Delhi-110001 on or before **15.02.2021**.

The advertisement No. 02/2018 issued earlier for the position of Distinguished Scientist may be treated as cancelled and withdrawn. Those who wish to be considered for the position of Distinguished Scientist need to apply afresh, as per the terms of advertisement no 05/2020, available on CSIR Website.

Davp/36202/11/0018/2021

बिहार राज्य भवन निर्माण निगम,लि0 पटना
(बिहार सरकार का उपक्रम)
ई0-पुनर्निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या-78 /2020-21

- विज्ञापनदाता का पदनाम एवं पता:- मुख्य महाप्रबंधक, बिहार राज्य भवन निर्माण निगम लि0, अस्पताल रोड, शास्त्रीनगर, पटना-800023 दिनांक: 22.01.2021
- निविदा आमंत्रण की तिथि:- दिनांक: 06.02.2021 से 27.02.2021 के 15:00 बजे तक।
- निविदा कागजात प्राप्त (डाउनलोड) करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय:- दिनांक: 28.02.2021 के 15:00 बजे तक।
- निविदा जमा (अपलोड) करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय:- केवल वेबसाइट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर
- निविदा बिडी का स्थान:- दिनांक: 19.02.2021 को 04:00 बजे अपराह्न मुख्य महाप्रबंधक,बिहार राज्य भवन निर्माण निगम लि0, अस्पताल रोड, शास्त्रीनगर, पटना-23
- प्री-बीड मीटिंग की तिथि, समय एवं स्थान:- दिनांक: 01.03.2021 को 15.00 बजे।
- निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय:- (टेकनीकल बीड) तत्कनीकी मूल्यांकन के बाद।
- निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय:- (वित्तीय बीड) 120 दिन
- निविदा वेबसाइट की तिथि:-
- कार्य का विवरण :-

क्र0	विज्ञा का नाम	कार्य का नाम	प्राकटित राशि	अंमल की राशि	परिणत निष्पत्ति का नाम	Bid Processin g Fee	कार्य सम्पत्ति की अवधि (दिन नु)	जमा गारंटी का नाम
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	पटना	कालिकाजी रोड, पटना-201, बार्ड नु-27, (सिटी नु-45, एम्पलासमेंट-पटना-201) का निर्माण कार्य। (ई0-पुनर्निविदा)	42,35,890.00	85,000.00	5,000.00	As per website	09 (नौ)	पटना
2	पटना	कालिकाजी रोड, पटना-201, बार्ड नु-27, (सिटी नु-45, एम्पलासमेंट-पटना-201) का निर्माण कार्य। (ई0-पुनर्निविदा)	42,35,890.00	85,000.00	5,000.00	As per website	09 (नौ)	पटना
3	पटना	कालिकाजी रोड, पटना-201, बार्ड नु-27, (सिटी नु-45, एम्पलासमेंट-पटना-201) का निर्माण कार्य। (ई0-पुनर्निविदा)	42,35,890.00	85,000.00	5,000.00	As per website	09 (नौ)	पटना
4	पटना	कालिकाजी रोड, पटना-201, बार्ड नु-27, (सिटी नु-45, एम्पलासमेंट-पटना-201) का निर्माण कार्य। (ई0-पुनर्निविदा)	42,35,890.00	85,000.00	5,000.00	As per website	09 (नौ)	पटना
5	पटना	कालिकाजी रोड, पटना-201, बार्ड नु-27, (सिटी नु-45, एम्पलासमेंट-पटना-201) का निर्माण कार्य। (ई0-पुनर्निविदा)	1,32,51,445.00	2,66,000.00	10,000.00	As per web site	08 (अठ)	पटना
6	पटना	कालिकाजी रोड, पटना-201, बार्ड नु-27, (सिटी नु-45, एम्पलासमेंट-पटना-201) का निर्माण कार्य। (ई0-पुनर्निविदा)	1,31,98,861.00	2,64,000.00	10,000.00	As per web site	08 (अठ)	पटना
7	पटना	कालिकाजी रोड, पटना-201, बार्ड नु-27, (सिटी नु-45, एम्पलासमेंट-पटना-201) का निर्माण कार्य। (ई0-पुनर्निविदा)	88,47,163.00	1,77,000.00	10,000.00	As per web site	03 (तीन)	पटना

- भवन भवन निर्माण निगम को संपूर्ण श्रेणी में निविदाएं एवं अंमल नवीकृत संप्रदाय की इस निविदा में भाग ले सकते हैं। किन्तु संप्रदाय को निविदाएं जमा की निविदाएं प्राप्त हो।
- निविदा केवल ई-निविदा पद्धति को अनुसार वेबसाइट (www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) पर निविदाएं जमा जमा करें।
- ई-निविदा प्रक्रिया में संपूर्ण जानकारी Toll Free No.-18005726571 से प्राप्त किया जा सकता है।
- ई-निविदा में भाग लेने के दृष्टिकोण से ई-निविदा के साथ निविदा करना होगा। वेबसाइट पर आवश्यक निविदाएं प्राप्त उपलब्ध हैं। इस निविदा में सभी user id तथा password मिलेंगे। संप्रदाय को DSC (Digital Signature Certificates) की प्राप्त करना होगा। user id, password, DSC एवं इन्टरनेट के उपयोग से ही निविदा में भाग ले सकते हैं।
- निविदादाताओं को सिर्फ वेबसाइट पर ही, निविदा कागजात प्राप्त (डाउनलोड) एवं जमा (अपलोड) करना होगा। सुनिश्चित जमा पर भरे गये निविदा प्रत्येक को एवं आवश्यक कागजातों को संपूर्ण करना होगा। निविदा खोलने की जानकारी तथा निविदा संप्रदाय किसी भी प्रकार के शुद्धि-पत्र की जानकारी निविदा में जमा करनी होगी।
- परिणत निष्पत्ति के मुख्य की राशि (जो किसी भी निविदा में संप्रदाय नहीं जमा करेंगे) का मुद्रागत और लाईन अर्थात Internet Payment Gateway (IPG) के माध्यम से जमा करना होगा एवं उक्त ऑनलाइन Internet Payment Gateway (IPG) की छाया प्रति संप्रदाय उप महाप्रबंधक, बिहार राज्य भवन निर्माण निगम लि0 (कोलन 9 के अनुसार) अथवा महाप्रबंधक (दक्षिण), बिहार राज्य भवन निर्माण निगम लि0, पटना अथवा मुख्य महाप्रबंधक, बिहार राज्य भवन निर्माण निगम लि0, पटना को कार्यालय में निविदा खोलने के साथ संप्रदाय एवं संप्रदाय के पत्र जमा करना अनिवार्य है। ऐसा नहीं करने पर निविदा मान्य नहीं होगी।
- वेबसाइट पर Tender free view में निविदा प्राप्त उपलब्ध है। निविदा प्राप्त में दस्तावेज के संप्रदाय से ही अंमल की राशि संप्रदाय होगी।
- Bid processing fee + Service Tax (कोलन-07) का मुद्रागत संप्रदाय Internet Payment Gateway (Credit/ Debit Cards) अथवा Internet Banking अथवा NEFT/ RTGS Challan के माध्यम से BSEIDC के Bid Processing Fee Account में Credit करेंगे। ऐसा नहीं करने पर निविदा मान्य नहीं होगी।
- अंमल की राशि संप्रदाय उप महाप्रबंधक, बिहार राज्य भवन निर्माण निगम लि0 (कोलन 9 के अनुसार) के नाम से (1) Bank Guarantee अथवा (2) Online (Internet Payment Gateway (IPG), (Challan) होगा चाहिए। अंमल की राशि, मुख्य रूप से, संप्रदाय उप महाप्रबंधक, बिहार राज्य भवन निर्माण निगम लि0 (कोलन 9 के अनुसार), महाप्रबंधक (दक्षिण), बिहार राज्य भवन निर्माण निगम लि0, पटना अथवा मुख्य महाप्रबंधक, बिहार राज्य भवन निर्माण निगम लि0, पटना के कार्यालय में, निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय पूर्व जमा करना अनिवार्य है। ऐसा नहीं करने पर निविदा मान्य नहीं होगी।
- वेबसाइट पर Tender free view में निविदा प्राप्त उपलब्ध है। निविदा प्राप्त में दस्तावेज के संप्रदाय से ही अंमल की राशि संप्रदाय होगी।
- कार्य की पूर्ण जानकारी के लिए संप्रदाय उप महाप्रबंधक, पटना, बिहार राज्य भवन निर्माण निगम लि0 / महाप्रबंधक (दक्षिण), बिहार राज्य भवन निर्माण निगम लि0 पटना / मुख्य महाप्रबंधक बिहार राज्य भवन निर्माण निगम लि0, पटना के कार्यालय से किसी कार्य दिवस के कार्य अवधि में संप्रदाय द्वारा निविदाएं प्राप्त कर सकते हैं।
- कार्यालय के पत्राचार बिहार सरकार द्वारा जारी संप्रदाय एवं संप्रदाय के पत्रों से दिये गये निर्देशों का निर्माण कार्य में संप्रदाय करना अनिवार्य होगा।
- बिना कारण बताये निविदा को अवधीत त करने/ रद्द करने का अधिकार संप्रदाय पत्रिकाओं को सुरक्षित है।
- प्राकटित राशि पत्र बंद कर सकेंगे।
- भवन निर्माण निगम का पत्रांक-666 (नं), दिनांक: 17.01.2020 के आदेशों में प्रसिद्धाद दर निविदा (In Percentage Rate tender) पद्धति में निविदाएं दर की न्यूनतम अवधीत को संप्रदाय कर दिया गया है तदनुसार निविदादाता को उक्त पत्र के आदेशों में एकरचना के साथ उक्त द्वारा निविदाएं दर के अनुसार संप्रदाय निविदाएं guarantee जमा करना अनिवार्य होगा।
- निविदादाता निविदा अपलोड करते समय एक साथ-पत्र अपलोड करने विषयमें यह निर्णय होगा चाहिए कि वह बिहार सरकार/ भारत सरकार/ सार्वजनिक उपक्रम/ आदि से बिहार/ कांशी त नहीं है। निविदा निविदा के दौरान अपर संप्रदाय में जाता है कि निविदादाता बिहार सरकार/ भारत सरकार/ सार्वजनिक उपक्रम/ आदि से बिहार/ कांशी त है, तो उनकी निविदा अमान्य की जाएगी और आगे कागजात कार्यालय की जाएगी।
- Work/ Agreement/Payment/Monitoring etc. will be done as per Advisory no.-15, dated 14.01.2019 of MoUHA, GoI (Client Bihar Sharif Smart City Ltd.) (कोलन-28 सिर्फ क्रमांक-01 से 04 पर वर्णित योजना के लिए लागू होगा)।

मुख्य महाप्रबंधक,
बिहार राज्य भवन निर्माण निगम लि0, पटना

नोटस कोटेशन के संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी एवं संप्रदाय हेतु **Toll Free No. 104** पर संप्रदाय कर सकते हैं।

TCS once again becomes most valued domestic firm

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Country's largest software exporter Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) on Monday surpassed Reliance Industries Ltd to become the country's most valued firm by market capitalisation.

In another milestone, TCS also emerged as the most valued IT company in the world as its market valuation went past that of Accenture.

During the close of trade, the market valuation of TCS was at ₹12,34,609.62 crore while that of Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) stood at ₹12,29,661.32 crore on the BSE.

TCS dipped 0.40 per cent to close at ₹3,290.20 after gaining 1.26 per cent to its one-year

high of ₹3,345.25 during the day.

Shares of RIL declined 5.36 per cent to close at ₹1,939.70 on the BSE after its earnings failed to cheer investors.

In March last year also, TCS had reclaimed the status of the country's most valued firm by market valuation.

So far this month, TCS shares have gained nearly 13 per cent on the BSE.

Multinational tech firm Accenture's market capitalisation was at USD 168.44 billion as of Friday close on the NYSE. As of Monday, TCS valuation in dollar terms was at USD 169.26 billion. Tech giant SAP's market valuation was at USD 155.50 billion and that of IBM was at USD 105.69 billion.

Govt may tweak customs duties on host of goods in Budget 2021

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government may tweak customs duties in the Budget next week on several goods, including furniture raw materials, copper scrap, certain chemicals, telecom equipment and rubber products, to promote domestic manufacturing and exports, sources said.

They said that while import duties could be tweaked on over 20 products such as cut and polished diamonds, rubber goods, leather garments, telecom equipment and carpet, the customs duties could be removed on select raw materials (like wood in rough, swan wood and hard board) used for furniture manufacturing and copper concentrate.

RBI refutes reports of withdrawal of old ₹100, ₹10, ₹5 currency notes

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Monday refuted reports of withdrawal of old series of ₹100, ₹10 and ₹5 currency notes.

"With regard to reports in certain sections of media on withdrawal of old series of ₹100, ₹10 & ₹5 banknotes from circulation in near future, it is clarified that such reports are incorrect," the RBI said in a tweet.

While announcing the issuance of new ₹100 denomination banknotes with base colour Lavender in July 2018, RBI had said banknotes in the denomination of ₹100 issued by it in the earlier series will continue to be legal tender.

INBRIEF

BOTTLE FOR CHANGE CAMPAIGN

South Zone today in association with Bisleri International started Bottle For Change campaign and organised an exhibition at Zonal office. A plastic recycling corner was also installed at office. Zonal Chairperson Dr. Nandini Sharma, Deputy Chairperson Maya Bisht, Deputy Commissioner G Sudhakar, Assistant Commissioner Mahesh Meena were present at the occasion.

M-SEND POLICY WILL PROVE TO BE A GAME CHANGER: CM

Jaipur: Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot said that the State Government building committed to meeting the gravel needs of the people for the works and The Manufactured Send (M-Send) Policy -2020 brought in the direction will prove to be a game changer. They said that due to this much awaited policy, use of M-sand and its production in the state will increase and our dependence on gravel coming out of rivers will decrease. Along with this, the solution of the problem of waste coming out of the mines in the mining areas of the state and there will be employment opportunities at the local level due to the large number of M-Send units installed will be born. Shri Gehlot inaugurated M-Send Policy-2020 at Chief Minister's residence on Monday. He was addressing the program.

BIKE RALLY ON THE OCCASION OF NATIONAL TOURISM DAY

To celebrate the National Tourism Day, 2021, a bike rally was organised by Directorate of Tourism, Jammu. The rally was flagged off by Chander Mohan Gupta, Mayor, Jammu Municipal Corporation and Sh. R.K. Katoch, Director Tourism, Jammu from Jammu Tawi Golf Course in which around 50 bikers participated. The Bike Rally will cover tourist destinations of Surinsar, Mansar, Mahoregarh Fort and Chichi Mata Mandir.

Sensex tanks 531 pts; energy, IT stocks play spoilsport

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The benchmark Sensex dived nearly 531 points to close at 48,348 on Monday, extending its losses to the third straight session due to massive selling in energy and IT stocks.

After swinging nearly 1,000 points during the session, the BSE benchmark settled with a loss of 530.95 points or 1.09 per cent at 48,347.59.

The 30-share index opened over 375 points higher and hit the day's high of 49,263.15 before succumbing to selling pressure that took the

index to the session's lowest point at 48,274.92.

The broader NSE Nifty plunged 133 points or 0.93 per cent to end the session at 14,238.90.

Over the last three sessions, the BSE Sensex has lost 1,444.53 points or 2.90 per cent and the NSE Nifty has shed 405.80 points or 2.77 per cent. "Domestic equities were quite volatile today and gave up all early hours' gains."

Investors continued to prefer in taking profits off the table ahead of union budget and F&O expiry.

₹ rises for 5th session, settles 3 paise higher at 72.94

Mumbai: The rupee rose by 3 paise to settle at 72.94 against the US dollar on Monday, extending its gains for the fifth straight session despite heavy selling in the domestic equity market. At the interbank forex market, the rupee opened at 72.95 against the American currency, and hit an intra-day high of 72.89 and a low of 72.96 in day trade.

Amazon files plea with Delhi HC to enforce SIAC interim order

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

US online retail giant Amazon has moved Delhi High Court to block partner Future Group from selling retail assets to Reliance Industries that had received a nod from market regulator SEBI and stock exchanges.

The e-commerce giant is seeking enforcement of the Singapore arbitrator's interim order to stall ₹24,713-crore Future-Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) deal.

Inclusive Finance India Awards

New Delhi: With an aim to celebrate and encourage deserving institutions to continue to enhance outreach to the poor by way of motivating management and staff through recognition to their painstaking efforts and enhancing credibility of the institution, the Inclusive Finance India Awards were constituted by ACCESS Development Services in partnership with HSBC India recently in Delhi. The winners were felicitated by Union Minister of State for Finance Anurag Singh Thakur and NABARD Chairman GR Chintala.

ICICI Bank

Whereas

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Kota Lakshman Rao And Kota Lakshmi S. No. 234/P, 1st Fl., Kranthi Classic Apts, Flat No. B-2, Sai Priya Gardens Chinagadali Mandal, Madhurawada, VSP Vishakapatnam - 530016/ LBVPM00001178238.	Schedule-A An Undivided And Unspecified Share Of Land Measuring 32 Sq. Yds Or 26.75 Sq.Mts., Out Of The Total Extent Of 1555 Sq. Yds Or 1299.98 Sq.Mts, Together With A Flat Bearing No. B-2, In First Floor, In Kranthi Classic, Having Plinth Area Of 780 Sq. Ft. Constructed Upto Slab Level, Covered By S.no.234/part, In Madhurawada Village And Panchayat, In The Registration Sub District Of Madhurawada And In The Registration District Of Visakhapatnam And Bounded By :- Boundaries For The Entire Site : East : Land Belongs To Vendors West : Land Belongs To Vendors North : 40ft Wide Road South : 100ft Wide Road Measurements East Wing : 140ft Or 42.672 Mts West Wing : 140 Ft Or 42.672 Mts North Wing: 100 Ft Or 30.48 Mts South Wing: 100 Ft Or 30.48 Mts Schedule-b Boundaries For The Flat No B-2 In First Floor Having Plinth Area Of 780 Sq Ft East : Open Space West : Common Corridor And Flat No. B-7 North: Flat No.B-1 South : Flat No.B- 3 / Date Of Symbolic Possession 20.01.2021	26.08.2020 Rs. 510740.00/-	Vishakapatnam

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

Date : January 25, 2021
Place: Delhi/ NCR

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

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

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer, Northern Railway, DEMU-Shed, Shakurbasti; for and on behalf of President of India, invites E-Tender for the under noted work.

Tender No.	258661DLSLSBR2
Name of work	Provision for Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract of SLI (Safe Load Indicator) system of 140T BD Crane No. 142271 at DEMU-Shed, Shakurbasti working over DLI division for a period of three years.
Approximate Cost	Rs. 9.55,800/- including GST @18%
Earnest money	Rs. 19,200/- (Note:- It should be in the form of net banking or gateway only. Note: FDR not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Board letter no. 2015/CR-1/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016)
Completion period of the work	03 years
Cost of tender document	Rs. 2,380/- with GST @18% (Note:- It should be in the form of net banking or gateway only. Note: FDR not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Board letter no. 2015/CR-1/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016)
Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 15:00 hrs. on 15.02.2021. Opening of Tender at 15:00 hrs.
Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen	Above tender is available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in
No.: 258661DLSLSBR2	Date: 21.01.2021
19/12/2021	

Serving Customers with a Smile

NOTICE

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

No. RMSA/NSQF/EOI/1363/2020/1897 Date: 25/01/2021

This is an invitation to submit an Expression of interest party(s)/ firm(s) for implementation of Vocational Education under National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) in Government and Provincialised secondary schools across Assam through e-procurement system of Govt. of Assam i.e. <https://assamtenders.gov.in>

Detailed document may be seen at <https://assamtenders.gov.in> for eligibility, scope of work, EOI terms and conditions etc. The EOI document can be purchased by registering at <https://assamtenders.gov.in> from 26/01/2021 to 15/02/2021, 14:00 hours and making payment of non-refundable EOI processing fee of Rs.5,000/- (Rupees five thousand) only in the form of DD/Banker cheque in favour of Mission Director, RMSA, Assam payable at Guwahati.

The EOI is to be submitted online through e-procurement portal of Govt. of Assam i.e. <https://assamtenders.gov.in> only on or before 15/02/2021, 14:00 hours.

Scope of Work:
Implementation of Vocational Education services in secondary schools under NSQF in the following trades:
1.IT/TeS. 2. Agriculture. 3.Healthcare. 4.Beauty & Wellness. 5.Electronics & Hardware.6.Automotive.7.Tourism & Hospitality. 8.Retail.9. Private Security.

Details of EOI:
1.Rs.16.80 lakh as Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) have to submit in favour of Mission Director, RMSA, Assam payable at Guwahati. 2.The EOI can be downloaded from the website <https://assamtenders.gov.in>. 3.The proposal has to be submitted as described in the EOI.4.Submission start date : 27/01/2021, 12.00 Noon.5.Last date/time for submission : 15/02/2021, 2.00 P.M. 6.Date of opening of EOI : 15/02/2021, 3.00 P.M.

RMSA, Assam reserves the right to amend or cancel the EOI without assigning any notice or reason therefor. Moreover, in case of non-availability of sufficient bidder (or less than three bidders), authority has the right to take decision without prior notice.

Sd/-Executive Director,
Samagra Shiksha, Assam Kahilipara, Guwahati-19

Janasanyog /CF/4111/20

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that one person namely **Rahul, S/o Rajesh, R/o H.No. A-31/6 C/1, Netaji Marg, Main Road, Maujpur, Delhi, Age: About 31 years, Height: 5'8", Face: Round, Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Normal, Hair: Black, ID Mark: Injury mark on forehead, Wearing: White colour shirt, grey colour pant and bare feet,** has been missing since **09.01.2021** from Gate No.4, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi from the area of P.S. North Avenue, New Delhi. In this regards a case **DD No. 40-A Dated 14.01.2021** has been registered at P.S. North Avenue, New 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 missing person please inform undersigned.

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail Id - cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639
DP/195/NDD/2021

SHO
PS North Avenue, New Delhi
Ph. No. 011-23093040, 9810245276

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male **Namely: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: approx. 40 years, Height: 5' 5", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Oval, Built: Thin, Hair: Black, ID: L.O.Y. tattoo on right hand, Wearing: Red/white colour shirt, matmaila coat and white colour pant,** who was found at Kesari Chowk, Old Lajpat Rai Market, Delhi. In this regard a case **DD No. 39A Dated 19.01.2021** has been registered at P.S. Kotwali, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

Sd/- SHO
P.S. Kotwali, Delhi
Tel.: 011-2395 3442

DP/902/N/2021(UIDB)

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SW)-III

SECTOR-VII, R.K. PURAM, NEW DELHI-110022

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

N.I.T. NO.37(2020-21) SW-III

S. No.	Description	Amount Put to Tender, Tender Fee	Date of release of tender in E-Procurement Solution	Last date/Time of receipt of Tender Through E-Procurement Solution
1	Interconnection of 1500 mm dia water main with feeder line of A-2 UGR by 500 mm dia water main using trenchless technology under EE(SW)-III, AC-43	Rs. 27.01,151/- Rs. 500/-	21-01-2021 Tender I.D.No. 2021_DJB_199032_1	05.02.2021 At 2:00 P.M.
2	Replacement of old/damaged/ silted up sewerline behind Ravi Das Mandir & nearby area at village Hauz Rani under SW-III, AC-43	Rs. 25.19,361/- Rs. 500/-	21-01-2021 Tender I.D.No. 2021_DJB_199032_2	05.02.2021 At 2:00 P.M.

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

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 338 (2020-21)

Sd/-
(Naveen Kumar Khare)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SW)-III

KAVYAM AFFORDABLE GROUP HOUSING

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Hotel "The Plazzo Hotel, 292-296 Sector-29 City Centre Gurugram- Haryana

22 जनवरी 2021 शुक्रवार को आयोजित काव्यम अफोर्डेबल ग्रुप हाउसिंग प्रोजेक्ट सेक्टर-108, गुरुग्राम स्थित प्लैट्स के झा के सफल आवेदकों एवं प्रतीक्षा आवेदकों की सूची:-

TYPE-1 2 BHK 512.50 Sq.ft

9228	10537	10540	10536	10413	9935	10571	10387	10502	10538	10553	10407
10501	10595	10597	10431	9556	10354	10615	10500	10555	10601	10529	10504
10539	10517	10528	10353	10352	9542	10596	10527	10519	10603	10607	3677
10525	10515	10605	10514	3679	10244	10600	10612	9937	10606	10618	10523

TYPE-3 2 BHK 488.30 Sq.ft

10661	10658	10620	10221	10656	10513	10522	10355	10660	10663	10619	10621
10549	10662	10550	10592	10554	10617	9184	10563	10505	10557	10530	9633

प्रतिष्ठा सूची - TYPE-3 2 BHK 488.30 Sq.ft

10541	10533	10651
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डिस्कलैमर:
काव्यम के प्लैट्स का झा हरियाणा अफोर्डेबल हाउसिंग पॉलिसी ग्रुहमंत्रालय/की.टी. सी.पी. हरियाणा/की.सी. गुरुग्राम द्वारा जारी दिशा निर्देशों के तहत रखे गये मापदंडों के आधार पर तैयार किया गया है।
सुनिश्चित आर्बटन सूची आवेदन पत्र संख्या व झा के क्रमांक के अनुसार है।
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GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA

TENDER NOTICE

SR. No.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT/AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD DEPARTMENT/AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	PANCHAYATS KARNAL	SUPPLY OF RAW AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK GHARAUNDA	22.01.2021 03.02.2021	-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416290875 prexeeng.kr@hry.nic.in
2	PANCHAYATS KARNAL	SUPPLY OF RAW AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK NISSING	22.01.2021 03.02.2021	-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416290875 prexeeng.kr@hry.nic.in
3	PANCHAYATS KARNAL	SUPPLY OF RAW AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK MUNAK	22.01.2021 03.02.2021	-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416290875 prexeeng.kr@hry.nic.in
4	PWD(B & R) SONEPAT	CONSTRUCTION OF REVENUE RESIDENTIAL QUARTERS FOR SDM & TEHSILDAR IN MINI SECT. AT KHARKHODA IN SONEPAT DISTT. (HONBLE C.M. ANNOUNCEMENT CODE 15158 DATED 16.10.2016 + 2 OTHER WORK	CLOSING DATE 11.02.2021	2406.55 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0130-2244690 pwd-eeep1-sonapat@hry.nic.in
5	PWD(B & R) JIND	SPECIAL REPAIR OF JIND-SAFIDON ROAD TO MALAR IN JIND DISTT. (ROAD ID 6702)	CLOSING DATE 11.02.2021	44.60 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01681-249416 pwd-eeepjind@gmail.com
6	PANCHAYATI RAJ HISAR	PROVIDING AND INSTALLATION OF STP BASED ON JOHKASOU / ADVANCED MBRR TECHNOLOGY AT DIFFERENT VILLAGES OF HISAR DISTRICT I.E. INCLUDING DESIGNING, COMMISSIONING, 1 YEAR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE (EXTENDED MAINTENANCE FOR 4 YEARS.)	23.01.2021 08.02.2021	5.15 CRORE	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9467251500 prexeeng.hsr@hry.nic.in
7	PWD(B & R) HANSI	PERIODICAL RENEWAL BY PROVIDING HEAVY PATCHWORK ON KOTPUTLI (IN THE STATE OF RAJASTHAN) NARNAUL-MAHENDERGARH-CHARKHI DADRI-BHIWANI- HANSI- BARWALA-TOHANA (IN THE STATE OF HARYANA) (NH-148-B) KM 163.468 TO 196.520 & 197.270 TO 204.920 (RE-INVITED)	22.01.2021 12.02.2021	121.67 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416136946 pwd-eeep-hansi@hry.nic.in
8	PHE SIWANI	GUDHA- PROVIDING FUNCTIONAL HOUSE HOLD TAP CONNECTION (FHCT) AND LAYING OF DI PIPE LINE UNDER JIM CATEGORY-IIND (JIM) IN VILLAGE GUDHA, "LAYING OF DI PIPE LINE AND MAKING FHCT CONNECTIONS IN VILLAGE GUDHA AND ALL OTHER WORKS CONTINGENT THERETO." + 1 OTHER WORK	CLOSING DATE 28.01.2021	5.30 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01255-277066 eesiwani@phedsiwani.gov.in
9	IRRIGATION HISAR	REMODELING OF NEW SIWANI FEEDER FROM RD 0 TO 76170.	27.01.2021 10.02.2021	2548 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01662-237166 xenconst7hsr@gmail.com
10	IRRIGATION AMBALA	CONSTRUCTING 1 NO. STONE STUD FOR THE PROTECTION OF ABADI OF VILLAGE RAMGARH MAJRA FLOOD WATER OF RIVER TANGRI + 23 OTHERS	29.01.2021 05.02.2021	611.04 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0171-2981541 xenwsdinvam588@yahoo.co.in
11	PANCHAYATI RAJ ROHTAK	CONSTRUCTION OF 16 NOS. VILLAGE ANGANWARI AT DISTRICT ROHTAK	23.01.2021 04.02.2021	143.84 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9467725150 prexeeng.roh@hry.nic.in
12	PWD(B & R) FARIDABAD.	CONSTRUCTION OF NEW ROAD FROM SHAHJANPUR KHADAR TO LATIPUR KM. 0.00 TO 2.445 IN FARIDABAD DISTRICT CCMA 21007 REINVENTED	22.01.2021 11.02.2021	111.27 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0129-2288187 pwd-eeep1-faridabad@hry.nic.in
13	PANCHAYATS KARNAL	SUPPLY OF RAW AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK JINDRI	22.01.2021 03.02.2021	-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416290875 prexeeng.kr@hry.nic.in
14	PANCHAYATS KARNAL	SUPPLY OF RAW AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK KUNJUPURA	22.01.2021 03.02.2021	-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416290875 prexeeng.kr@hry.nic.in
15	PANCHAYATS KARNAL	SUPPLY OF RAW AND BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCK NILOKHERI	22.01.2021 03.02.2021	-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416290875 prexeeng.kr@hry.nic.in
16	PWD(B & R) JIND	SPECIAL REPAIR OF JULANA-BADCHAPPER ROAD FROM RD 0.000 TO 1.110 IN JIND DISTT. (ROAD ID 6559) + 1 OTHER WORK	CLOSING DATE 17.02.2021	446.34 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01681-249416 pwd-eeepjind@hry.nic.in
17	PANCHAYATI RAJ JIND	CONSTRUCTION OF ANGANWARI CENTRES IN				

REPUBLIC DAY SPECIAL

Trend
Slazer

I know people love me: Pankaj

PANKAJ TRIPATHI surprises you by saying he doesn't quite understand what it means to be a star. However, he gets to know that people love him through social media reactions.

"Nothing has changed. I don't have an idea if I am a star and I don't know what it's like to be a star. I don't have an idea about stardom. I used to work with honesty and I am doing it with sincerity till now," Pankaj said.

"I know people love me. I get to know about it through social media. Sometimes I feel that the love of the audience is like a fixed deposit with me and I have to give them back with interest. So, the responsibility and trust increases," he added.



'I still remember meeting this kid (Varun Dhawan) in Goa! Long hair, big dreams in his eyes and a swag that was waiting to

explode on celluloid! A few years later he was my Assistant on MNK! (My Name Is Khan). When he faced the camera for me for the first time, I developed an immediately protective feeling of love and care for him... And that feeling today came alive in abundance as I saw him walk with his loved one around the holy fire of trust and commitment...'

—Karan Johar

Actor and yoga enthusiastic **SHILPA SHETTY KUNDRA** suggested the right yoga to bust stress, and improve core strength and flexibility of the hip joints and legs.



"For almost a year now, in some or the other way, we've all been in rough waters. For me, the best way to beat the stress is to occasionally draw out the 'boat' pose or the *Naukasana*. It can row you out of many issues that your body maybe undergoing. #MondayMotivation," she said.

I miss dressing up: Kim

American reality TV star **KIM KARDASHIAN** strikes a stylish pose in a new snapshot she has posted on social media, though she says she misses dressing up.

In the picture she posted in the early hours of Monday, according to India time, Kim is seen stepping out of her car. Colour-coordinated with the all-black power wheels, Kim is dressed in all-black, too. She wears a front-open black leather jacket that falls way below her knees, with a black leather off-shoulder short dress that has a cross embroidered on the torso.

The 40-year-old celebrity adds to her minimalist no-makeup look with the caption she writes on the picture: "I miss dressing up."



WE, THE PEOPLE

The Republic Day march makes for a visual treat. But is that still relevant and important? Experts speak. By CHAHAK MITTAL

Magnificent marches by the regiments of the Indian Army, Navy, Air Force, Police and Paramilitary forces, display of the Indian Defence prowess, latest missiles, aircrafts, weapon systems, colourful tableaux showcasing the beauty of different states of India — the Republic Day parade in Delhi has always been a visual treat. But beyond appearances, what does the idea of celebrating this day holds out for people besides inconveniencing a large part of the populace in the capital? Does it still have some importance among the citizens of India or is it merely a public holiday for them? We might find the tricolour at a roadside vendor's shop or children selling them at traffic signals only to be trampled upon later.

We speak to experts from various fields to know how the idea of Republic Day has changed over the years and what it means now.



Devdutt Pattanaik, Author and Illustrator:

It is a modern-day ritual designed to construct the idea of a nation-state. Just as the flag is a modern-day symbol and

standing up while singing National Anthem is a ritual. Through rituals and symbols were constructed ideas that create organisa-

tions such as tribe and nation. They help bind people together, grant pride and identity to a people. These are not a

natural phenomenon but cultural myths, i.e. people's truths. It is what humans do to establish a community.



Harish Iyer, Gay Rights Activist:

The idea of republic is basically an oath to the Constitution, which strives to see all of us as equals. The truth is that we are distinct and com-

pletely different from one another. We all define equality in the ways we perceive it. The idea of equality

too is different for everybody. Hence, this Republic Day, it's time to remember that equality is the key for a society to perform well and excel. It might be

different for various sections of the society, including the marginalised one. After the historic verdict by the Supreme Court, decriminalising Section 377, a lot changed and I think now, the LGBTQIA+ community is very much a part of the Republic.



Dr Bhuvan Lall, Author:

As a biographer of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, over the years, I have observed that the respect he gained from ordinary Indians, most of whom were born post-1947, is incredible. This Republic Day, we need to remember that people like him and our Armed Forces in difficult terrains and inhospitable weather conditions, continuously defending and standing up for the biggest democracy in the world. Jai Hind!



'Theatres are safe'

Actor **SHARAD KELKAR** questions that if people are partying big time, why are they hesitant to return to cinema halls?



Actor Sharad Kelkar is surprised that the audience is still hesitant to return to the cinema theatres, although other areas of the hospitality and entertainment industry have started to open up, post-COVID lockdown.

"People have started going to pubs, coffee shops, restaurants, weddings and even to places like Goa on vacation. People are partying big time, so I don't know why they are not going to the theatres," Sharad said.

"Theatres are much safer, and also there is 50 per cent occupancy. Theaters are regularly cleaned and sanitised. This is one of the biggest industries we have, and it is dependent upon the audience. So I'd request everyone that if you can party, you can also go to the theatre," he added.

Quizzed about how the pandemic and lockdown have affected him, the actor said: "I am known as a workaholic in my friend circle. I am active and love to run around all the time. This pandemic taught me patience. Sitting at home doing nothing was a new experience for me for the first time in the last 18 years that I started working. Not going out to work and not meeting peo-

ple was initially a little depressing but ultimately I understood that in life you need to be a little patient!"

Sharad, who impressed all playing Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in Ajay Devgn's blockbuster film *Tanhaji: The Unsung Warrior* last year, reveals he had rejected historical roles for almost 15 years of his acting career.

"I have been getting offers for historical shows right from my initial years when I started doing TV, due to my voice, height and physical structure. But I was always afraid of doing it. There was a fear of having to wear a lot of costumes, which I thought would be tedious. So I almost avoided historical roles for 15 years," he said.

About *Tanhaji* and his role in the film, he said: "I never knew a historical film would give me so much appreciation and establishment in the industry. So, I proved myself wrong!"

On the work front, Sharad turns narrator for the forthcoming animated series, *The Legend Of Hanuman*. He will also feature in the Ajay Devgn-starrer *Bhuj: The Pride Of India* and the forthcoming web series *The Family Man 2*.

—JANS

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England whitewash Lanka

AFP ■ GALLE

Dom Sibley and Jos Buttler anchored a run chase after a jittery start as England beat Sri Lanka by six wickets on Monday in the second Test to sweep the series 2-0.

Sibley and Buttler put on an unbeaten 75-run stand as England, who were struggling at 89/4, got to their target of 164 in an extended final session on the fourth day in Galle.

The result gave England a second successive Test whitewash in Sri Lanka after winning all three matches in the island nation in 2018.

England were given a deadline to finish in the day after spinners Jack Leach and Dom Bess skittled out Sri Lanka for 126 in their second innings.

Left-arm spinner Lasith Embuldeniya claimed three wickets that gave Sri Lanka hope and helped him to his Test-best match figures of 10-200.

Debutant spinner Ramesh Mendis got the key wicket of skipper Joe Root, who scored 11 after his 186 in England's first innings total of 344, to add to the scare given to the tourists.

Embuldeniya took Zak Crawley for 13 and then ended Jonny Bairstow's stay after a quickfire 29, putting England's nerves on edge, but Sibley calmly moved to his third Test half-century.

Leach and Sibley took four wickets each to set up England's win.

The hosts started their second innings early in the day with a lead of 37 but it all came to an end in the afternoon session.

Number 10 Embuldeniya top-scored with 40, after taking



Joe Root holds winners' trophy after England beat Sri Lanka in 2nd Test

seven wickets with his left-arm spin to end England's first innings on 344. He was the only batsman to score more than 20 as Sri Lanka collapsed from 29 for one in their second innings.

Embuldeniya put up some resistance with a ninth-wicket stand of 48 with Suranga Lakmal, who made 11 not out, before Root took the final two wickets with his off-spin.

Leach's left-arm spin got Kusal Perera trapped lbw for 14, and off-spinner Bess sent back Oshada Fernando for three in the first session. First-

innings centurion Angelo Mathews was then bowled by Bess for five and Chandimal fell to Leach, with James Anderson taking a superb running catch.

Earlier Dilruwan Perera trapped overnight batsman Leach lbw for one on just the 11th ball of the day after England resumed on 339 for nine in Galle.

Leach took a single and number 11 Anderson hit a boundary off Embuldeniya, who returned career-best figures of 7-137 in just his ninth Test, to add five runs to the overnight score.

Riding on Root's 228,

We'll carry confidence from SL win against 'world's best' India: Root

AFP ■ GALLE

Skipper Joe Root on Monday said England will take confidence from their 2-0 Test sweep in Sri Lanka to challenge world No 1 India on their own patch.

Root, who led by example with match-winning knocks of 228 and 186 in the first and second match respectively, said the team looks in good shape ahead of the four-Test series in India that starts in Chennai on February 5.

"We've got four very important games against arguably the best team in the world in their own conditions," Root said. "We'll have to play right at the top of our game to win out there but we couldn't be in a better place to go and challenge them."

The England team face a period of quarantine upon entry to India ahead of the series, but Root said the measures had not fazed the squad.

"We're gonna have seven or eight days with no cricket, six days in quarantine and then three very important days of prep ahead of the series," he said. "But what we have got is a huge amount of confidence coming out of these two games."

'DEFINITELY PROGRESS'
England have won five

England won the opening Test of the resumed series, which started last March but was postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

straight Tests away from home as they got past hosts South Africa in the final three matches of a four-match series to triumph 3-1 in January last year.

"Definitely progress. As I mentioned before this game, we have in the past struggled in away conditions," said Root.

"For us to be able to turn that round, find ways of consistently taking 20 wickets is really impressive. We have just got to stay hungry and keep looking to get better."

England though will be without Jonny Bairstow for the opening two India Tests as part of the team's rest and rotate policy for its players during the coronavirus pandemic. Buttler, who scored 55 and an unbeaten 46 in the second match, will return home after the first Test.

Root said the team, which will be boosted by the return of Ben Stokes and Jofra Archer, will have to keep up with player rotation in these uncertain times.

"We always want our best players there as often as possible, because of the world we're in right now it's not feasible and we have to manage that the best we can," said Root.

"But he's still got an opportunity to affect the series and sure he'll be desperate to keep up the good form."

England now head to India for a four-Test series starting February 5 in Chennai. The first two Tests will be played to empty stadiums.

Babar hopes to counter tough Proteas in home

AP ■ KARACHI

Babar Azam will make his Test captaincy debut on Tuesday against a tough South Africa team that is touring Pakistan for the first time in more than 13 years.

Azam has recovered from a thumb injury that kept him out of the two-Test series in New Zealand, which Pakistan lost 2-0.

"I missed the series against New Zealand, but it's a proud moment for me that I am doing my captaincy debut in my own country," Azam said on Monday. "South Africa is a good team. You can't take them lightly, but conditions suit us more because most of us have played here."

South Africa last toured Pakistan in 2007 because the country was forced to organize its "home" Test series in the United Arab Emirates following a terrorist attack on a bus carrying the Sri Lanka team in Lahore in 2009.

The second Test will be played in Rawalpindi from February 4, followed by the three-match Twenty20 series in Lahore from February 11-14.

Pakistan is out of the race to qualify for the World Test Championship final at Lord's in June while South Africa has only a mathematical chance to make it with India, New Zealand, Australia and England among the top contenders.

Azam is well aware of Pakistan's poor Test record against South Africa, winning only four of 26 against the Proteas. One of Pakistan's 15 losses came at the National Stadium — the venue for the



first Test — when South Africa toured in 2007.

"We should not think about past, we should focus on what's ahead of us," Azam said. "It's a fact that we don't have a good record against them, but we have prepared well and we hope to give our best against them this time."

Pakistan has included six uncapped players in a 17-man squad. Opening batsman Imran Butt and left-arm spinner Nauman Ali could make their Test debuts on Tuesday.

Azam also said Pakistan might go with an additional spinner along with Yasir Shah. "We have practiced here for a week now and the wicket looks a bit slow," Azam said.

Only South Africa coach Mark Boucher has previously played red-ball cricket in Pakistan, while the experienced, Faf du Plessis has twice toured Pakistan over the last four years but played only in the T20 format.

mat. "I'm sure this Pakistan team is going to be tough," South Africa captain Quinton de Kock said when the team arrived. "I think our biggest challenge is the conditions that we could face, the unknowing of the things that we have to deal with."

Boucher said he expected the wicket in Karachi to help spinners and it might tempt him to include an extra spinner along with first choice left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj.

"It's (the wicket) definitely going to turn," Boucher said. "The conditions are going to be proper subcontinent conditions where I don't think there's a lot of assistance for seamers."

"We've definitely come in with the mindset that if you want to win a series away from home, you've got to make a couple of brave calls at the end, (and) the selectors and the team are going with that mindset into the game."

Final chance for domestic players to impress in Mushtaq knock-outs

PTI ■ AHMEDABAD

It will be the last chance for the domestic players to impress before the all-important IPL auction when the knock-outs of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy begin here from Tuesday.

While Karnataka will go all out looking to retain the title, the seven other teams which have made it to the quarter-finals, will be itching to make an impact and get their names inscribed on the trophy.

The event marked the resumption of the much-delayed 2020-21 domestic season in the country.

A mighty Punjab team stands between Karnataka and their title defence as the two teams will square-off in the first quarter-final, which is expected to be an even battle.

Punjab made it to the knock-outs from Elite Group A after winning all their five games in the league stage, while Karnataka also scraped to the final eight, despite being second on the points table in Group A, having lost one game.

The match could be touted as battle of openers as Punjab possesses the young Prabhsimran Singh, who is in good form, with 277 runs, while Karnataka will bank on the stylish southpaw Devdutt Padikkal, who has 207 runs from five games.

Both the sides have an equally strong middle-order. However, Punjab could have a slight edge in their pace attack



with Sidharth Kaul (10 wickets) and Sandeep Sharma in their arsenal.

Sharma in particular is lethal in the shortest format of the game. But Karnataka have the likes of Abhimanyu Mithun and Prasidh Krishna, who can be equally dangerous.

Even the contest is somewhat equal among the spinners as Punjab has Mayank Markande while Karnataka will bank on the lead spin duo of experienced J Suchith and Shreyas Gopal.

In the second quarter-final, for Tamil Nadu, who were runners-up last season, attacking opener N Jagadeesan, who is the leading run-getter in the tournament so far with 315 runs and skipper Dinesh Karthik, will again be the key players in their clash against Himachal Pradesh, who came through from Elite

Group C.

The TN bowling unit did a superb job for skipper Karthik though it was without ace spinner R Ashwin, yorker specialist T Natarajan and all-rounder Washington Sundar who were away on national duty in Australia.

Leg-spinner M Ashwin and left-arm spinner R Sai Kishore were quite a handful but it was Baba Aparajith, who was the surprise packet, taking the new ball and enjoying a great degree of success too.

The trio will have a crucial role to play in the knockouts if TN has to go all the way as would the pacers — Sandeep Warrier, M Mohammed and Aswin Crist.

In the third quarter-final too, it could be tough for Baroda to overcome the challenge of Haryana, without the services of

the Pandya brothers — Hardik and Krunal.

While Hardik did not play the tournament as he was practicing for the white-ball series against England, Krunal had to leave the tournament mid-way following his father's demise.

Haryana have been in splendid form and it is their spinners — India player Yuzvendra Chahal, Jayant Yadav and Rahul Tewatia, who will give them an upper hand against Baroda.

But Baroda led by Kedar Devdhar, who has amassed 226 runs in five games, can spring a surprise. And for that to happen, left-arm inform pacer Lukman Meriwala (11 wickets) and Atit Sheth (8 wickets) hold the key against a vulnerable Haryana top-order.

In the fourth quarter-final, Rajasthan, who qualified from Group D, will be the run-away favourites against Bihar, who have qualified from the Plate Group.

The Mushtaq knock-outs, will also be the first time that matches will be played at the refurbished Sardar Patel Motera Stadium. It will be interesting to see how the pitch behaves with the two Tests between India and England to follow at the venue.

Line Ups: Quarter-final 1: January 26: At 12 noon: Punjab vs Karnataka. Quarter-final 2: January 26: At 7 PM: Tamil Nadu vs Himachal Pradesh. Quarter-final 3: January 27: At 12 noon: Haryana vs Baroda. Quarter-final 4: January 27: At 7 PM: Rajasthan vs Bihar.

Chelsea sack Lampard

AFP ■ LONDON

Chelsea sacked manager Frank Lampard on Monday after 18 months in charge, with former Paris Saint-Germain boss Thomas Tuchel reportedly set to replace him at Stamford Bridge.

Sunday's 3-1 FA Cup fourth-round win against Championship side Luton was not enough to save Lampard, whose team have slumped to ninth place in the Premier League.

Chelsea said it had been a "very difficult decision" to part ways with the 42-year-old, who replaced Maurizio Sarri in July 2019.

"We are grateful to Frank for what he has achieved in his time as head coach of the club," Chelsea said in a statement.

"However, recent results and performances have not met the club's expectations, leaving the club mid-table without any clear path to sustained improvement."

The club's Russian owner Roman Abramovich said: "This was a very difficult decision for the club, not least because I have an excellent personal relationship with Frank and I have the utmost respect for him."

"He is a man of great integrity and has the highest of work ethics. However, under current circumstances we believe it is best to change managers."

Former PSG boss Tuchel, who was abruptly sacked by the French champions in December, is in line to take over, reports said.

Chelsea are struggling in ninth place in the Premier League table, 11 points behind leaders Manchester United.

They have lost five of their past eight Premier League matches after a good start to the season.

Lampard signed a three-year deal in 2019 and despite a transfer ban, led them to the FA Cup final and a fourth-place finish in his first managerial campaign at Stamford Bridge.

But a huge outlay of around £220 million on new players including Ben Chilwell and German attackers Kai Havertz and Timo Werner has failed to translate into improved results.

Lampard's points-per-game average of 1.67 is the fourth-lowest of any permanent Chelsea manager in the Premier League.

Tuchel only became available a month ago when he left PSG, less than five months after taking them to the Champions League final, which they lost to Bayern Munich.

The 47-year-old German won back-to-back league titles with PSG, but that was not

enough to satisfy the club's Qatari owners, who replaced him with former Tottenham manager Mauricio Pochettino.

Prior to PSG, Tuchel impressed at Borussia Dortmund, having started his managerial career with Augsburg and then Mainz.

Lampard is Chelsea's record goalscorer and won three Premier League titles during his glittering playing career at Stamford Bridge, as well as the Champions and Europa Leagues and other domestic honours.

His first managerial posting was at Championship club Derby. In his one season in charge, they reached the Championship play-off final, where they lost to Aston Villa.

Lampard then became the 10th full-time manager appointed by Abramovich since the billionaire bought the club in 2003.

"He is an important icon of this great club and his status here remains undiminished," said Abramovich. "He will always be warmly welcomed back at Stamford Bridge."

Poms to host NZ for 2 Tests

London: England will host New Zealand for two Test matches in June for the home side's first games of the summer.

It will be the first time that New Zealand, which leads the Test rankings, will play Tests in England since 2015. The matches will be played at Lord's on June 2-6 and Edgbaston on June 10-14.

The announcement means

England is set to host seven Tests this summer, with India scheduled to play a five-match series starting in August.

England also announced a three-match T20 series against Sri Lanka at Sophia Gardens in Cardiff on June 23 and 24 and the Ageas Bowl in Southampton on June 26, starting before a three-match ODI series against the same opponents.

ATM restore 7 point lead



AFP ■ MADRID

Luis Suarez scored a brilliant team goal as Atletico Madrid came from behind to beat Valencia 3-1 on Sunday and move seven points clear at the top of La Liga.

After Real Madrid thrashed Alaves on Saturday, Barca had earlier followed suit with a scrappy victory over Elche.

But Atletico were under-terred in the capital, as their considerable advantage was restored again, with a game in hand.

"We don't get carried away or think too far ahead, we think about getting better," said Atletico coach Diego Simeone.

Suarez finished off a flowing move that had started almost on Atletico's goal-line before substitute Angel Correa capped another slick string of passes to end Valencia's resistance.

The visitors had taken an early lead in stunning fashion, Uros Racic curling into the top corner from 35 yards but Joao Felix equalised and Atletico came back, in a way that has begun to feel expected.

Felix was replaced by Correa after an hour by Simeone after assisting Suarez and scoring a goal for himself that should send a message to his coach, who has handed the 21-year-old a spell on the bench in recent weeks.

"It's not written that footballers have to play 90 minutes," said Simeone. "Joao scored a goal, made an assist, he came off and on came Correa, who scored a goal and was close to another. The competition is healthy."

Simeone knows the pressure will mount as the La Liga trophy comes more into view, yet his team are showing an assuredness now that is offering little encouragement for Barcelona and Real Madrid.

B'desh complete WI clean sweep



Bangladesh players & support staff pose with winners' trophy

AP ■ CHATTOGRAM

Bangladesh completed a clean sweep of the West Indies by securing a 120-run victory on Monday in the third and final ODI.

Skipper Tamim Iqbal, Shakib Al Hasan, Mushfiqur Rahim and Mahmudullah all hit half-centuries to help Bangladesh post 297-6 after West Indies captain Jason Mohammed won the toss and

decided to bowl first.

The West Indies, however, were bowled out for 177 in 44.2 overs, with Bangladesh's bowlers denying them any significant partnerships.

Tamim scored 64 from 80 balls at the top of the order to establish the innings while Mushfiqur Rahim and Mahmudullah paced the innings toward the end. All three scored 64.

Shakib hit a patient 51, his

first half century since returning to cricket following a suspension imposed by the ICC for his failure to report corrupt approaches.

Bangladesh fast bowler Mustafizur Rahman denied West Indies a fluent start in its pursuit of a stiff chase. He broke through with the wicket of Kjorn Ottley before removing Sunil Ambris (13) for the third time in a row in the series.

Off-spinner Mehidy Hasan and Saifuddin then ripped through the middle order, reducing the visitors to 93-5.

Rovman Powell counter-attacked and hit 47 off 49 balls with two fours and two sixes to be the team's top-scorer.

Saifuddin returned 3-51 while fast bowler Mustafizur Rahman and Hasan claimed two wickets each.

The two teams will now play a two-match Test series, starting on February 3.



Practice makes perfect for Fernandes

AFP ■ MANCHESTER

Olle Gunnar Solskjaer hailed Bruno Fernandes's dedication to perfecting his free-kick technique as the Portuguese's stunning strike earned Manchester United a thrilling 3-2 win over Liverpool to reach the FA Cup fifth round on Sunday.

Solskjaer handed Fernandes a rare rest from the start with United leading the way in a tight Premier League title race.

But the Red Devils' talisman came off the bench to win a compelling cup tie at Old Trafford, devoid of the caution both sides showed in a 0-0 draw when they met a week ago on league duty.

"When you leave him out like I did today, he stayed about 45 minutes after training yesterday shooting free kicks so I was pretty confident he could score one if he got the chance," said Solskjaer.

"He's never happy with me

when I tell him to go inside after training when he's playing the next day, so he got some practice yesterday."

Liverpool's wait for a first domestic cup win of Jurgen Klopp's reign goes on to compound their faltering league form.

The English champions have fallen six points behind United after failing to score in their last four league games.

However, there was hope for Klopp of a revival as Mohamed Salah scored twice.

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आप की सरकार



The pride of our nation
Corona warriors, Sanitation workers,
Soldiers and Farmers!

This Republic Day,
we salute the four pillars of our nation

Wish you a very Happy Republic Day

DIP/Shabdarth/D/0103/20-21

