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India rejoices at Chanu's feat

21-year-long wait for weightlifting medal at Olympics ends



Mirabai Chanu reacts during a successful attempt in the 49 kg category of Womens Weightlifting event of the Summer Olympics 2020 in Tokyo on Saturday

PTI

PTI ■ TOKYO

A confident smile never leaving her face, Mirabai Chanu ended India's over two-decade long wait for a weightlifting medal at the Olympics, clinching the 49kg category silver medal five years after leaving the same platform in tears following a disastrous

debut.

With her historic triumph, she ensured that India was second on the medals tally for a brief while, a feat that has never been achieved before by the country.

It was also the first time that India managed to win a medal on the opening day competitions.

The diminutive iron lady from Manipur lifted a total of 202kg (87kg+115kg) to better Karnam Malleswari's bronze in the 2000 Sydney Olympics. With this, she exorcised the ghosts of the 2016 Games where she had failed to log a single legitimate lift, leaving her shattered.

"I am very happy, I have

been dreaming of this for the past five years. I am very proud of myself right now. I did try for gold but even silver is a great achievement for me," Chanu told reporters after her career-defining triumph for which she had been training in the US for past few months.

The 2016 experience was a watershed in her career and

Mother in tears as Mirabai sports 'good luck' earrings

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A historic silver medal and a radiant smile were not the only eye-catching things about Mirabai Chanu on Saturday, her gold earrings shaped like Olympic rings were as striking, a gift from her mother who sold her own jewellery for them five years ago.

The hope was that the earrings would bring her "good luck". It didn't happen in the Rio 2016 Games but Chanu made the little sacrifice count in Tokyo this morning with a

silver medal and Saikhom Ongbi Tombi Leima has struggled to stop her tears from flowing ever since.

"I saw the earrings on TV. I gave them to her in 2016 before the (Rio) Olympics. I have made it for her from the gold pieces and savings I have so that it brings luck and success," Leima told PTI from her home in Manipur where a considerable number of relatives, friends and well-wishers gathered to watch Chanu script history in Tokyo.

Chanu had spoken about how confused she had felt during her debut at the biggest stage. There was none of those nerves to be seen on Saturday, just a very composed and focussed athlete who knew she was destined for the podium.

"I am very happy to win the first medal for India at these Games. I don't just belong to Manipur, I belong to the whole country," she said in response to a query on what it meant for her as a Manipuri.

"I would like to thank my coach Vijay Sharma and the support staff for their continuous hard work, motivation and training," she added.

Could not have asked for a happier start to Tokyo2020! India is elated by Mirabai Chanu's stupendous performance. Congratulations to her for winning the Silver medal in weightlifting. Her success motivates every Indian

— Narendra Modi

Heartiest congratulations to Mirabai Chanu for starting the medal tally for India in the Tokyo Olympics 2020 by winning silver medal

— Ram Nath Kovind

Better safe than sorry: Embassy to Indians in Af

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As fighting rages in Afghanistan, the Indian embassy there on Saturday said the situation "remains dangerous" and advised all Indian nationals there to exercise caution.

The advisory came days after the IAF planes evacuated more than 50 diplomatic staff of the Indian consulate in Kandhar.

The note of caution by the embassy in Kabul on Saturday urged Indians staying, visiting, and working in Afghanistan to exercise utmost vigilance at all times and avoid all non-essential travel as security situation in Afghanistan remains dangerous. It also warned Indian nationals are not exceptions, and they additionally face a serious threat of kidnapping.

The detailed advisory also asked the Indian nationals to remain vigilant with security at workplace, place of residence and also during movement to their places of work.

It is recommended that all types of non-essential movements be avoided. Movements especially during peak commuting hours should also be avoided.

While traveling on roads, maintain distance from possi-

'Avoid travel as Af situation dangerous'



ble targets like military convoys, official vehicles of Government and Ministries, high ranking officials, law enforcement agencies, it cautioned.

Indians were also asked to refrain from going to crowded markets, shopping complexes, restaurants and other public places. All essential movement may please be kept as discrete as possible, it said.

It also advised traveling outside the main cities should be strictly avoided. Moreover, all Indian nationals arriving in Afghanistan are advised to register with the Embassy.

CAPSULE

BATLA HOUSE CONVICT ARIZ KHAN MOVES HC

New Delhi: Ariz Khan, who was awarded the death penalty for the murder of decorated Delhi Police Inspector Mohan Chand Sharma in connection with the sensational 2008 Batla House encounter case, has moved the Delhi High Court challenging his conviction and sentence.

ARMY JAWAN DIES IN MINE BLAST ALONG LOC

Jammu/Hamirpur: A 27-year-old Army jawan was killed in a mine blast along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, officials said on Saturday. Sepoy Kamal Dev Vaidya was on operational duty in Krishna Ghati sector on Friday.

GOLD SMUGGLING: INDIGO, SPICEJET STAFF ARRESTED

New Delhi: Seven persons, including four staffers of Indigo and Spicejet airlines, were arrested by the customs officials at Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport here for allegedly smuggling into the country gold worth ₹72.46 lakh, an official statement said on Saturday.

Delhi Metro, buses to run at full capacity; theatres at 50%

But no standing allowed in Metro

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In the latest unlock guidelines issued on Saturday for the national Capital, the Delhi Metro and public buses in the city will operate at full seating capacity, while cinema halls, theatres and multiplexes will open with 50 per cent occupancy from Monday.

The city witnessed an unprecedented surge of cases and deaths during the second wave of coronavirus in April and May. The situation seems to have been improving over the past few weeks, allowing the Government to reopen the city in a phased manner.

The latest unlock guidelines by the Delhi Disaster Management Authority



(DDMA) said the Delhi Metro, the city's lifeline, will be allowed to operate with 100 per cent seating capacity from Monday but no standing passenger will be allowed.

Cinema halls, theatres and multiplexes will be allowed to open with 50 per cent seating capacity from July 26, while

business-to-business (B2B) exhibitions will also be allowed, but only with business visitors, the guidelines said.

The order also directed that number of people allowed at marriage functions and last rites will be raised to 100 from Monday.

Spas can also open from July 26 but their all employees have to be fully vaccinated or undergo RT-PCR test fortnightly, the DDMA said. Delhi faced a brutal second wave of the pandemic that claimed a large number of lives daily. The rapid rise in the number of cases led to a shortage of medical oxygen at various city hospitals.

On April 20, the city had reported a record 28,395 cases. On April 22, the case positivity rate was 36.2 per cent, the highest so far. At 448, the highest number of deaths was reported on May 3.

Over 1.5 lakh inoculated against Covid

2 Covid patients die in 24 hrs

PNS ■ RANCHI

State on Saturday inoculated over 1.5 lakh residents against Covid-19 – the highest in a day this month – after fresh supplies from the Centre allowed the state to intensify the vaccination campaign against SARS-CoV-2, health officials said.

While the immunisation campaign against the deadly virus regained momentum on Saturday, the state also reported two Covid casualties, which took the toll in the state to 5124, a bulletin released by the National Health Mission (NHM) highlighted. The state did not report Covid casualties for at least a week until Saturday.

As per figures released by the health department, Jharkhand on Saturday administered the first dose of vaccine to at least 1,11,529 residents and the second dose to 40,398 ben-

eficiaries. At least 91,000 residents below the age of 45 years received the first dose of vaccine against Covid-19 on the day, while 1375 beneficiaries in this age bracket got their second jab.

The immunisation campaign in the state lost momentum earlier this week due to shortage of vaccines and most of the government session sites remained non-operational. However, at least 1202 session sites were operational in the state on Saturday, as per the dashboard of the Co-Win portal.

As many as 85 session sites, including 78 sites run by the government, were operational in Ranchi, while 87 session sites opened their doors in East Singhbhum. At least 78 session sites in Dhanbad inoculated residents on the day. The state had around 7 lakh Covishield and 40,000 Covaxin doses in stock by the end of Saturday, health officials said.

The active caseload of Covid-19 dropped further down to 276 on the day in



A medic inoculates a dose of COVID-19 vaccine to a woman during countrywide vaccination drive at a vaccination centre in Ranchi on Saturday Ratan Lal / Pioneer

Jharkhand as the state reported 54 recoveries against 33 fresh cases of Coronavirus infection. As per NHM data, six recoveries against four cases brought the active caseload in Ranchi down to 61, while the number of active cases in East Singhbhum dropped to 26 as the district reported six recoveries against five fresh cases.

At least 11 districts – West Singhbhum, Saraikela, Palamu, Pakur, Koderma, Hazaribag, Gumla, Godda, Garhwa, Dumka, Deoghar and Chatra –

did not report fresh Covid cases on the day. The active caseload in Garhwa reached zero on the day as the lone Covid patient in the district recovered from the infection. The state on Saturday tested swab samples of 70,596 residents and 0.04 per cent of them were found infected by the deadly virus. So far 3.46 lakh people have been infected by Coronavirus in the state and 98.44 per cent of them have recovered. However, 1.47 per cent of the patients could not survive.

CBI raids 40 locations in fake arms licence case

Premises of 20 gun dealers, IAS officers in J&K, Delhi searched

PNS ■ JAMMU

The CBI on Saturday conducted searches at around 40 locations in Srinagar, Jammu, Udhampur, Rajouri, Anantnag, Baramulla and Delhi, including the premises of two IAS officers, in the ongoing investigation of a case related to arms licence racket.

The CBI teams searched the premises of around 20 gun dealers and other public servants from early morning across multiple locations.

Some officials in connivance with gun dealers were involved in the issuance of more than 2.78 lakh arms licences to the non-entitled persons.



According to a statement issued by the CBI headquarters, "CBI had registered two cases on the request of J&K Government and further notification from Government of India, and taken over the investigation of two FIRs i.e. No.18 of 2018 dated 17.05.2018, earlier registered at Police Station Vigilance Organisation Kashmir (VOK), and FIR No. 11 of 2018 dated 17.05.2018 of Police Station Vigilance Organisation Jammu (VO) on the allegations of bulk issuance of arms licences in the erstwhile State of J&K during the period 2012 to 2016".

The CBI collected documents about the issuance of these arms licences allegedly spread over 22 districts of J&K.

During investigation and scrutiny of documents, the CBI reportedly found that certain gun dealers in connivance with District Magistrates were allegedly issued such illegal arms licences. The persons who got these licences were not residents of the places from where the said arms licences were issued.

Senior IAS officer Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, who served as DM in three districts of Reasi, Udhampur and Kathua during the said period of investigation, posted a tweet confirming the raid at his residence. "With reference to media reports I've to confirm that CBI did search my residence & found nothing incriminating in the ongoing arms licence probe. Media friends may note the probe covers 4 years across all dists. I am fully answerable to CBI for my tenure," Dr Shahid Iqbal wrote giving details of total arms licences issued during his tenure.

3 arrested on charges of destabilizing State Govt

PNS ■ RANCHI

In a bizarre series of events Ranchi police late on Friday evening arrested three persons from a city based hotel on charges of hatching conspiracy to destabilize the State Government. Police are said to have recovered some cash from them, which in turn was to be allegedly used to lure legislators for destabilising the government.

According to police the action followed after a written complaint from Bermo MLA Jaimangal Singh on July 22. On the basis of the complaint letter police conducted raids at various hotels of the Capital city and arrested three persons – Amit Singh, Abhishek Kumar Dubey and Nivaran Prasad Mahto from a city based hotel.

Police, through a press communique stated that the accused, during investigation, have accepted their involvement in the conspiracy against the government and efforts to destabilize it. Police further stated that the accused were



Accused persons being taken to court from Kotwali police station in Ranchi on Saturday Pioneer photo

trying to connect to political people and provide them with cash for the purpose.

A senior officer requesting anonymity said, "Details of travel records of some legislators of the State along with Rs 2 lakh cash has been recovered from the accused. Three persons were arrested, while some others managed to flee.

An FIR against these three persons was lodged at Kotwali Police Station in Ranchi under sections 419, 420, 124-A, 120 B and 34 of IPC along with section 171-B of PR Act and section 8/9 of PC Act.

The accused were presented before the court on Saturday and were sent to 14-days' judicial custody.

Massive evacuation in rain-ravaged Maha

89,000 moved to safety; relief ops continue

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

More than 89,000 people were evacuated from the rain-ravaged coastal Konkan region and several parts of western Maharashtra as multiple agencies continued rescue and relief operations in the flood-affected areas of the State on Saturday.

Despite a let-up in the rain in most parts of the State, large parts of western Maharashtra districts of Satara, Sangli and Kolhapur remained thick sheets of floodwater, while the towns of Chiplun, Khed in Ratnagiri district and other areas in coastal Konkan region continued to reel under inundation.

Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray visited Talai village in Mahad taluka of Raigad district where

more than 50 people were killed in a massive landslide on Friday. He assured the affected people that the State Government would, apart from giving compensation to the affected families, undertake rehabilitation of the displaced people across the coastal Konkan region and other parts of the State.

As many as 89,333 people were rendered homeless as they were evacuated in various flood-affected districts of coastal Konkan region and several parts of Western Maharashtra.

Sangli district in western Maharashtra bore maximum brunt of the flood situation arising from the heavy rain battering the region for the past four days.

While 40,573 people have been evacuated to safer places in Sangli district, the neighbouring Kolhapur district accounted for the evacuation of 40,882 people. As many as 2,681 marooned people were shifted to safer places in Thane district, there were evacuation

of people in other districts like Ratnagiri (1200), Raigad (1000), Satara (734) and Pune (263).

Due to heavy rainfall in the district and heavy discharge from the Koyna dam, rivers in the district, including the Panchgana breached the danger mark and contributed to inundation in many areas in Sangli and Kolhapur districts. On its part, the district administration evacuated people from low-lying areas with help of NDRF and local teams.

Apart from the heavy rain, the discharge of huge volumes of water from Altmatt dam is contributing to the flood situation in Kolhapur district.

The authorities have sounded high alert and deployed more teams to face any eventuality.

Earlier in the day, the State Disaster Management Authority pegged the current rain-flood toll at 76, while another 59 have gone missing and 38 others were injured in the floods, landslides and other rain-related tragedies.

‘Playing an asura came with challenges’

SIDDHARTH NIGAM, who plays a 2500-year-old asura in Hero-Gayab Mode On on Sony SAB, speaks with SHALINI SAKSENA about his reaction on getting this role and challenges faced

■What was your reaction when you were offered to play a 2500-year-old asura?

When I was approached for the project, I was not told what character I was being offered. I was only given the brief. They told me that they already had their main lead. And now they were looking for a person who was more powerful than this superhero — someone who can make the hero a superhero. I was interested. I felt that the show was unique. I have always tried to do projects where I could be different from what I had done in the past. When I was offered this role, I was excited. However, when I was told that I would be an *asura*, I was taken aback a bit but I was told that I would remain in my human form; just that I would have superhuman powers. The best part was that I would get to be part of the project with my brother.

■How did you come on board the project?

I was lucky that I didn't have to audition for this project. The producer of Peninsula Pictures, Alind Srivastava offered me this role. He said that he wanted me to be part of this show and play Shivaay. I agreed and here I am.

■What are the challenges that come with playing Shivaay?

There were quite a few. First, Shivaay's voice is a bit heavy. I am unlike Veer Nanda (Hero) who is street-smart. I am all-powerful and strong. Then there is the look. I have tattoos and initially it would take up to two hours to get ready. Now, of course, it doesn't take that long. Also, the dialogue delivery is different; he is extremely intelligent. Whatever he says has deeper meaning. How this has to be conveyed had to be practiced.

■Do you get into fights with your brother — off-screen?

Onscreen, I am obviously trying to turn him into a superhero, so there are fight sequences. Off-screen, sometimes we have differences of opinion and get into verbal fights, as is normal. We sometimes end up in a WWE kind of situation. But we are brothers and respect each other. The good part is that we have no

ego clashes.

■How did you get into acting?

I never wanted to be an actor. My background as a gymnast left very little time for any recreational activities. If I ended up on the news, that was enough for me. I was in the hostel; I didn't have a mobile; we had to practice for eight hours a day. That left little time for anything else. It never occurred that I would end up acting. I have a Gold in parallel bar and a Silver in high bar at 58th National School Games, Pune and during one of the games I was spotted and was approached for the audition of Bournvita ad. That is how I came into the industry. It was destined.

■Was it tough to do the ad?

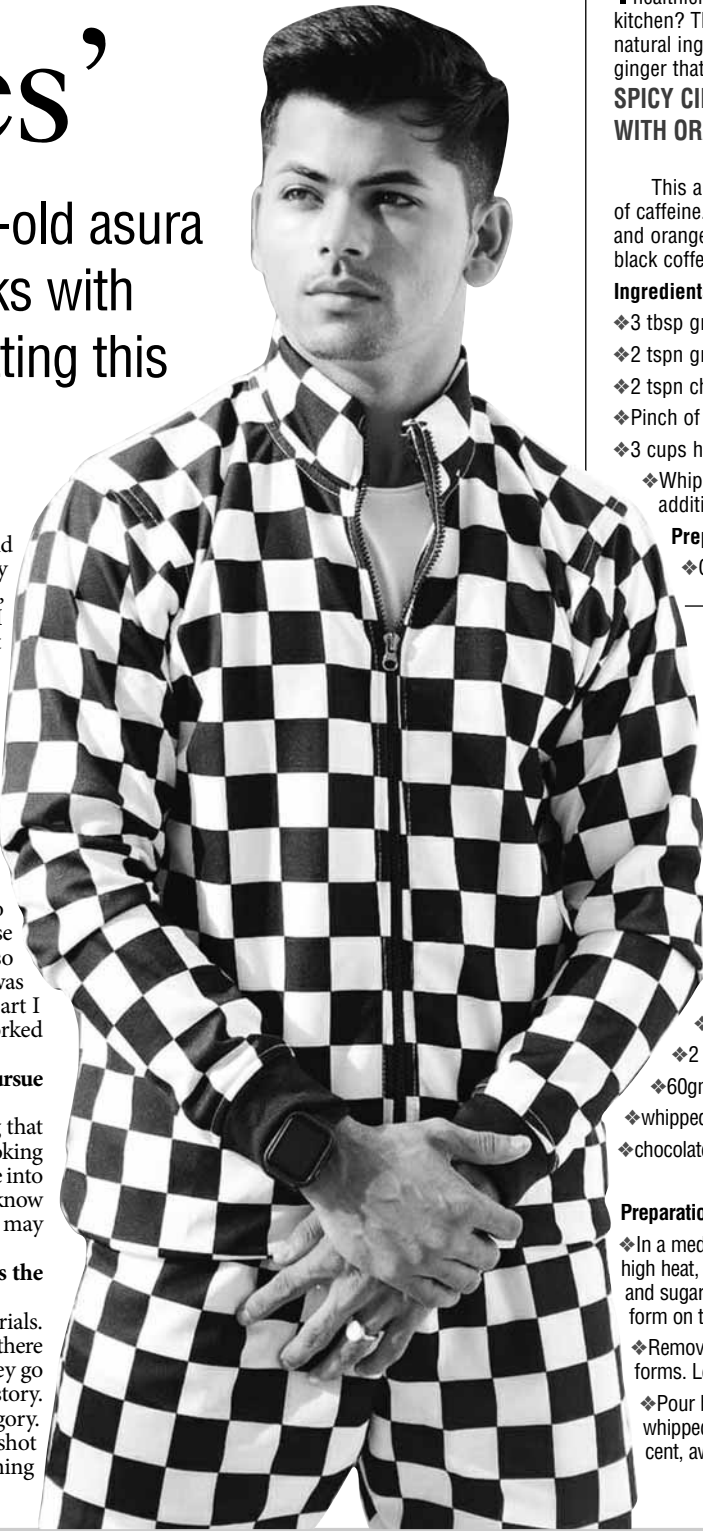
It was tough. I had no acting background. I have never taken any classes. It was difficult to face the camera, well-known actors and memorise dialogues and deliver them with emotion was so alien to me. This made me nervous. But I was determined that since I was offered to play a part I would do it to the best of my abilities. So, I worked really hard.

■You have done a couple of movies. Why not pursue Bollywood?

I am sure that there is something really big that will come my way from Bollywood. I am also looking at roles that I can play in web series. Since I came into this industry I have always tried different roles. I know only one thing however big or small the screen may be, my job is to give my best.

■You have done a few music videos. How has the experience been?

Doing music videos is so different from serials. There are two types of music videos. One where there is a song and there is a boy and or a girl and they go dancing about. Then there are videos that tell a story. What I have done comes under the second category. I love doing such music videos since they are shot within two-three days; it is a stress-buster. Listening to music and performing it is very relaxing.



Plan Your Sunday

It's hard to say no to coffee especially in this rainy season. How about making it yummier and healthier coffee with available ingredients in your kitchen? These hot coffees has the goodness of natural ingredients and spices like cinnamon and ginger that boost your immunity.

SPICY CINNAMON COFFEE WITH ORANGE ZEST

This is a Perfect monsoon coffee with extra dose of caffeine. Natural ingredients like cinnamon, ginger and orange zest pairs beautifully with this creamy black coffee.

Ingredients:

- ◆ 3 tbsp ground coffee
- ◆ 2 tspn grated orange zest
- ◆ 2 tspn chopped crystallized ginger
- ◆ Pinch of cinnamon powder
- ◆ 3 cups hot water
- ◆ Whipped cream, cinnamon sticks and/or additional orange zest, optional

Preparation:

- ◆ Combine the coffee, orange zest, ginger



and cinnamon; pour into a Frenchpress and brew it for

4-5 minutes.

◆ Pour into mugs; if desired, garnish with whipped cream, cinnamon sticks and orange zest.

PARISIAN CHOCOLATE COFFEE

This Parisian Hot Chocolate Coffee is an indulgent blend of thick and creamy hot chocolate and bold hot dark roast coffee. The perfect brunch or dessert beverage for rainy day.

Ingredients:

- ◆ 1 cup freshly brewed French press coffee
- ◆ 1 cup full cream milk
- ◆ ½ cup heavy cream
- ◆ 2 tspn powdered sugar
- ◆ 60gm bittersweet chocolate
- ◆ whipped cream
- ◆ chocolate shavings

Preparation:

- ◆ In a medium saucepan over medium-high heat, whisk together the milk, cream, and sugar and heat until bubbles start to form on the outer edge. Do not boil.

- ◆ Remove from heat and add in chopped chocolate, let set for 2 minutes, then whisk until a rich chocolate color forms. Let set for about five minutes.

- ◆ Pour hot coffee into two mugs, half each cup. Top it with hot chocolate to the coffee and finish off with whipped cream and chocolate shavings Note: Store in temperature of 20 degree C and humidity less than 5 per cent, away from foreign odours, for up to three weeks.

Courtesy: Abdul Sahid Khan, Head Trainer, Lavazza India



TELLYTALE

VIRENDRA SAXENA IS BACK ON THE SMALL SCREEN

After several extremely successful collaborations such as *Hum Paanch*, *Pavitra Rishta*, *Jodha Akbar*, *KumKum Bhagya*, *Kundali Bhagya*, Zee TV and Balaji Telefilms are set to present viewers with an exciting story about life, love, karma and destiny. Set against the backdrop of Mumbai, Zee TV's *Bhagya Lakshmi* will follow the journey of Lakshmi, a selfless girl of limited means, who despite her humble background and the curveballs life has thrown at her, always puts others' needs before hers. While TV actress Aishwarya Khare has been paired opposite the heartthrob television actor Rohit Suchanti to play the lead characters, featuring alongside them will also be the veteran television, film and theatre actor, Virendra Saxena.

With several notable characters and shows to his name, Virendra Saxena is definitely a prominent personality in the industry. The actor's work has been recognised across fields and he is all set to once again enthrall his fans, bringing yet



another interesting character to life with all his efficiency and artistry. Virendra who was last seen as a part of a show in 2010 is all set to return to the small screen after more than a decade with the role of Lakshmi's father, Manoj Bajwa, who has a rustic

charm and shares a great bond with his daughter. He firmly believes that Lakshmi has both his and his wife's values instilled in her and that their small family is only weaved in happiness.

Talking about making a comeback on television, Virendra Saxena said, "A good story always impacts the audience and their lives, and I'd like to believe *Bhagya Lakshmi* would do the same. I've been keeping away from TV for quite some time now, because the kind of stories that has been happening and the kind of roles I've been getting over the years had somehow bored me. In fact, when I got the offer for this shiwo also, I wasn't very curious, but when I read the script, I couldn't say no. Also, when I got to know that Ekta ji (Kapoor) wanted me to play this role, there was no way I could say no to the project because I have always had this huge respect for her for the person she is. Working with Balaji has always been a treat because the investments they do for their projects are really unfathomable."

NEW KHATARNAK CHALLENGE FOR KHILADIS

Colors' much-awaited stunt-based reality show, *Khatron Ke Khiladi* is back with bang as it has already captivated the viewers with its darr, dare and endless drama. This season is bigger, better, and wilder as we are back in Cape Town. "Yeh Hai Darr aur Dare ka battleground, welcome to Cape Town". *Khatron ke real khiladi* and the master of action, Rohit Shetty, and the makers of the show have left no stones unturned to make the show better than ever.

In the upcoming episode, Rohit Shetty will give another interesting challenge to the contestants to win the K medal. The winner will get the golden opportunity in the future challenges to skip one of the tasks and also choose any other contestant to perform the same on their behalf.

Vishal Aditya Singh, Shweta Tiwari & Divyanka Tripathi Dahiya will be chosen

to perform the task wherein they will stand around each other just like a Mexican standoff.

The thrill and fun didn't end here, as the episode also witnessed Divyanka flinching. In this task, as Rohit Shetty



asks rapid-fire questions to Divyanka, she starts to slow down and gradually drown in the water!

Curious? Who will win the K-Medal among Vishal Aditya Singh, Divyanka Tripathi & Shweta Tiwari?

CENTURY OF CELEBRATION

Adding to the monsoon cheer And continuing to spread the Khushiyon Wali Feeling, Waggle Ki Duniya - Navyi Peedhi, Naye Kiseey has continued to entertain the audience. To celebrate 100 episodes and to thank the viewers for declaring it the 'best show on television currently', lead actors Sumeet Raghavan, Pariva Pranati and new entrant Anju Jadhav, who comes in as Sumeet's new tough boss, engaged in a candid chat.

Delighted by the appreciation shown by the fans, Sumeet Raghavan said, "There are many reasons the audience love us so much. The credit goes out to the storyline and the atmosphere that we have all built on the sets. From making a conscious decision to avoid preachy content to building amazing bonds offscreen, it all reflects well on-screen in the interest of all generations. Aanjan ji and Bharati ji on the sets never fail to surprise us with the hard work and motivation they bring daily. The way Aanjan Ji comes so well prepared with all his lines learnt continues to inspire me to be a better actor."

Adding further, Pariva Pranati said, "I'm glad that we continue to inspire more and more people by the day. Recently a fan from the US got in touch with us, mentioning how we have impacted her and her family's life, it was truly surprising and unexpected. We continue to keep the episodes realistic and contribute from the nuances of daily life, ensuring we always stay connected with our fans. Also, a huge amount of credit goes to our bond that has been built over time. We bond over food, music and loads of *nok jhok*."

The upcoming track adds more thrill and excitement. Anju Jadhav on her entry in the show said, "Kiara Tejwani as a character is a business-minded individual who doesn't appreciate mixing emotions with work. Kiara enters the show as Rajesh Waggle's new boss, and she is here to take the company to new heights. The role and the show is what amazed me to accept this offer. It allows me to explore many emotions at a go. It is also something that I haven't explored before, and I truly believe I am blessed to have received this opportunity."

'I don't have fans, they are my friends'

ZAKIR KHAN, who has recently collaborated with KARAN JOHAR for a campaign film by Britannia Good Day, tells MUSBA HASHMI about the concept, what made him swap his look with KJo and that he misses stage

■How was your experience working with Britannia Good Day?

It was beautiful. We were going to start before the second lockdown, but the situations that arose caused a delay. Finally, we were able to come up with this film and I am happy and excited. I love the concept, so I was dying to be a part of it.

■How was your experience collaborating with Karan Johar for the campaign film?

It is a beautiful opportunity for me. He is someone I have seen him as a fan. He is an icon for a lot of us, over the years. I remember watching *Kuch Kuch Hota Hai*. I remember watching his interview on Doordarshan after the film. In our memory, it is always a magical moment when we meet a person we have seen on TV in real life. So, it is a magical moment for me. Someone I have seen giving interviews as a kid, today I am getting to see them work in real life.

■What made you guys come up with the idea of swapping. And how difficult or fun was it for you?

The idea itself is fun. As an artist I would like to say that image is for under confident people who are not sure of themselves. Protecting image is something you do when you are very insecure. I assume Karan as well as me, though we are two distinguished personalities, we have full faith in what we do in our separate fields. Thus, we didn't refrain from looking like someone else. The experience of swapping was so exciting that there was no second thought about doing it or not.

■A trait of Karan Johar that you would like to swap with yours.

I think his access to Shah Rukh Khan and all the actresses in the world. I am a huge Shah Rukh Khan fan and somebody who can be in his first circle is something that I would like to exchange. I can give him my cricket gang from Bombay in exchange for it, or my Anvar Kranti from *Chacha Vidhayak Hai Humare*. So, he can give me Shah Rukh Khan and I can give him Anvar Kranti.

■How do you think your fans will react when you swap your personality?

I think first of all I have no fans, all of them are my friends. And everything is fine in front of friends. Max to max, they will make fun of me and there is no harm in it. And I do not think that

Protecting image is something you do when you are very insecure. I assume Karan as well as me, though we are two distinguished personalities, we have full faith in what we do in our separate fields. Thus, we didn't refrain from looking like someone else. The experience of swapping was exciting



my fans see me like that. They know me in many different *avatars*. They know that I am a musician, I have played *sitar* for 21 years of my life and I do stand-up comedy. So, I keep doing things which are pole apart, in my life. The people who know me are not affected by it and the people who do not know me, I am not affected by them.

■While Karan and you are both writers, you both have very different personalities. Did you take any time to prepare or study each other's personality to execute this better?

Of course, I saw some of his interviews and tried to understand how he talks. Secondly, as an iconic figure, I somehow knew how he talks to a certain extent. But yes, some days before the shoot I tried to understand how he works. And as an artist, I am not a very good mimic but I can imitate. So, I was just trying to look at the kind of mannerisms I can pick, and what will look nice. There are some things which you pick, but they do not look good on you. So, the idea was to pick things which will look okay on me.

■You have been one of the most popular faces in Indian stand-up comedy. Do you think that now we have a wider audience to appreciate your field of art?

I feel even when the audience was less, it was wide for me. Because, the art form is so new that we still do not know what is its full potential. My aim is to explore and to reach to more and more people so that there comes a time when we know exactly the number of people that are there in the audience.

■Do you miss the stage? How different is it to perform on a virtual platform?

Stage is different from a virtual platform. It is like meeting someone you love in person and talking to them on video call. They are exactly two very different things. The affection is there of course, but the warmth is definitely missing. That hype, that rush of being on stage is definitely not there, though, the rush of good conversations is always there on an online platform. But not as great as what it is on stage. It is like asking somebody that how do they feel catching the scent of *biryani* as compared to actually getting to taste it. Of course, having *biryani* is more satisfying than just getting to smell it.

JMM attacks BJP for trying to ‘destabilise’ Govt

PNS ■ RANCHI

Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) on Saturday attacked Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and said that BJP is trying to destabilise the State Government. The party’s remark came after the incident of arrest- ing of three persons from a hotel of the State Capital with cash.

Addressing a press meet at its party headquarters in the State Capital, JMM’s Spokesperson Supriyo Bhattacharya, said that the BJP’s intention to topple the State Government in Jharkhand has failed. He said that the Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh model of BJP did not work in Jharkhand. “First in Rajasthan and now in Jharkhand, BJP has to face defeat. In that way the people of Jharkhand are for sale nor the MLAs of JMM, Congress and RJD. This Government is a stable government for five years,” he added.

“A huge conspiracy was hatched to destabilize the stable Government of the State. People started feeling that in this way a conspiracy could be hatched to spread confusion among the



JMM General Secretary Supriyo Bhattacharya addresses media persons at the party office in Ranchi on Saturday
Vinay Murmu | Pioneer

MLAs. In the past also BJP State president had said that Jharkhand’s Hemant Government would fall after the bye-elections of Dumka and Bermo, then Godda MP Nishikant Dubey had said after

the bye-election of Madhupur that the BJP Government would be formed and Babulal Marandi will become the Chief Minister. Why do these things come in BJP’s mind?” said Bhattacharya.

The party Spokesperson

asked why BJP is trying to overthrow an elected Government. “The people who are in power right now have all come from struggle and it is not easy to buy the people born out of struggle. The stand that the Central

Government is taking right now is quite terrible. Questions on policy and talks against the Central Government are not being tolerated. The things that have been told by the Ranchi Police so far, some people ran away and some people could not run away, it is a matter of doubt,” he added.

Bhattacharya said that this is not an ordinary incident. “We are seeing and understanding also. If there is any kind of undemocratic conspiracy, then this State will not sit silent. The work is being done under the democratic system,” he added.

The party Spokesperson also said that any kind of undemocratic work will not be tolerated here. He said that the BJP is constantly conspiring to destabilise the Government. In response to a question, he said that the Congress party should move forward by taking its MLAs in its confidence.

In response to another question, Bhattacharya said that some of our MLAs and BJP’s MLAs have also said that there is a conspiracy against the Government. He said that the MLAs of JMM are united.

JPPC gifts Tharoor’s book to CM Soren

PNS ■ Ranchi

All India Professionals Congress Jharkhand in-charge and National Spokesperson Szarita Laitphlang and Jharkhand Pradesh Professional Congress President Aditya Vikram Jaiswal met Chief Minister Hemant Soren today and presented the book ‘The Paradoxical Prime Minister’ sent by Dr. Shashi Tharoor.

During the meeting, Szarita Laitphlang, in-charge and national spokesperson of All India Professionals Congress Jharkhand said that under your leadership, the State of Jharkhand is maintaining the pace of development despite the transition period. She also appreciated for the good of the state.

Expressing gratitude to the CM, Jaiswal said that the people of the State are getting the benefit of your efficient leadership. The manner, in which you have overcome the first and



All India Professionals Congress Jharkhand in-charge and National Spokesperson Szarita Laitphlang and Jharkhand Pradesh Professional Congress president Aditya Vikram Jaiswal present a book to CM Hemant Soren during a courtesy meet, in Ranchi on Saturday.
PNS

second wave of Corona is very appreciable.

They also discussed the issue regarding the publication and appointment of 25 per cent results in Jharkhand High School Trained Appointment- 2016 and the extension of ser-

vice pending for 2 years of 332 e-managers working in DeGs Society.

The CM said that our government will take a good and decisive decision on both these subjects so that the state continues to progress.

State gets 35,570 Covaxin doses amid rising demand

Shorter gap between doses makes Covaxin desirable

PNS ■ RANCHI

State on Saturday received at least 35,570 Covaxin doses to tide over the shortage of the Bharat Biotech-made vaccine amid a growing demand for it among Jharkhand residents, health officials said.

“We received over 35,000 Covaxin doses today morning. More Covaxin doses are expected by the end of this month,” said State immunisation officer Dr. Ajit Prasad.

Covaxin has fast become the desired vaccine against Covid-19 for residents, primarily due to the shorter gap between the two doses as compared to Covishield. However, its limited supply has not only left the beneficiaries of second dose waiting, but also forced many first dose beneficiaries to delay their jab, officials said.

As per Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)

guidelines, Covaxin requires a gap of only 28 days between the two doses, while the second dose of Covishield is administered at least 84 days after the first dose. Many people planning to travel abroad are opting for Covaxin over Covishield due to the shorter gap between the two doses. Some states too have made RT-PCR test mandatory for travellers who haven’t received both their vaccine doses, which gives Covaxin beneficiaries an edge over people who receive other vaccines.

The state, as per government data, had hardly 7000 doses of Covaxin in stock until Saturday. Jharkhand received only about 1 lakh doses of Covaxin from the centre in July against over 15 lakh Covishield doses.

The number of Covishield doses administered in the state so far was at least six times the number of Covaxin doses, latest data with the health department highlighted. As per government data, the state has administered Covaxin doses to over 13.76 lakh residents and Covishield

to around 71.62 lakh beneficiaries.

While the immunisation campaign against Covid-19 has been a bumpy ride in the tribal state this month with periods of extreme crisis and surplus dose availability, the health machinery has relied heavily on the easily available Covishield vaccine to prevent the vaccination drive from coming to a standstill, officials said.

Jharkhand received 5,30,430 doses of Covishield on Friday and an additional 2.61 lakh on Saturday to run the immunisation campaign for the remaining period of July, officials said. While the state received over 15 lakh doses of Covishield this month, hardly 1 lakh doses of Covaxin were supplied from the Centre.

A highly-placed source involved in the immunisation drive against Covid-19 said that the health department has asked vaccination centres to prioritize administering Covaxin to second dose beneficiaries over people willing to get the first jab of the vaccine.

Break monsoon getting longer, farmers worried



Villagers plant paddy saplings in a field near Ranchi on Thursday
PNS

PNS ■ RANCHI

The southeast monsoon that had shown the sign of revival during the first week of July is again playing hide and seek game as the monsoon has weakened leaving farmers and weather scientists worried.

Monsoon hitting Jharkhand during the first week of June had shown the sign of good rain as the first 10 days recorded good rain. The first spell of monsoon in June ended with surplus rain of 34 per cent in Jharkhand.

But in the first week of July, Jharkhand witnessed phenomena of break monsoon resulting in subdued rainfall activity across Jharkhand.

The monsoon got stuck over Uttar Pradesh resulting in less rain in Jharkhand. However, weather scientists believe that the break monsoon phenomenon may be over in the next one week. But there was no sign of the revival of the monsoon.

In July so far Jharkhand has received 403 mm rain which is 18 mm less than was predicted. At least 12 districts namely Bokaro, Chatra, Deoghar, West Singhbhum, Gadhwah, Gumla, Godda, Latehar, Pakur, Saraikela-Kharsawan, Khunti and

Chatra received 389 mm rain which is 33 per cent less than the predicted rainfall

Simdega have received less rainfall.

For instance Chatra received 389 mm rain which is 33 per cent less than the predicted rainfall.

Gumla has recorded a shortfall of 154 mm rain whereas Khunti has recorded 26 per cent less rain.

Bur rain god seems to be quite generous for Jamtara which has recorded 672.2 mm rain against predicted 468.9 mm. Similarly Lohardaga has received 643.6 mm rainfall in the last 20 days against predicted 397.1 mm.

Farmers are worried over erratic behaviour of rain. “July is the peak time for paddy sowing and there must be sufficient water in the field for paddy to grow for the next two months. But our paddy fields still don’t have sufficient water,” said Manoj Mahto, a farmer of Pithoria in Ranchi.

CIL Chairman reviews performance of CMPDIL

PNS ■ RANCHI

CIL Chairman, Pramod Agrawal, reviewed the performance of CMPDIL at its HQ, Ranchi. Binay Dayal, CMD, CMPDI & Director (Technical), CIL briefed the performance and related issues.

Agrawal praised the efforts of CMPDI in various fields as a premier organisation in rendering technical consultancy services in the Earth Science sector. During the meeting, he advised CMPDI for faster technological up-gradation and dissemination of knowledge relating to various services rendered by it for sustaining the edge as a leading organization.



CIL Chairman, Pramod Agrawal holds a review meeting at CMPDI on Saturday
PNS

Technical consultation amongst various planners/executives, including those from other leading organizations, through meeting/workshop/seminar at regular intervals will be of help in keeping abreast with the

state of the art technology/knowledge.

He assured help to CMPDI in all fronts, including in the areas of delayed realisation of bills. On this occasion, P.M. Prasad, CMD, CCL & BCCL; R.N. Jha, Director (T/RD&T); A.K. Rana, Director (T/P&D); S.K.

Gomasta, Director (T/ES/CRD) of CMPDI, Manoj Kumar, GM (Co-ordination) & other GMs/HoDs were present. All Regional Institutes were connected via video conferencing.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

Ulihatu, Maluti, Rajmahal find place for Amrut Mahotsav

PNS ■ RANCHI

State’s three historical and cultural places have found a place for Amrut Mahotsav—the places where a series of cultural events will be held round the year commemorating the 75th Independence Day of the country. The three places are the birthplace of Bhagwan Birsa Munda (Ulihatu) in Khunti district, Maluti in Dumka district and Rajmahal in Sahibganj district.

‘Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav’ is a series of events organized by the government of India to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Independence. The mahotsav will be celebrated as a peoples’ movement across the country. As part of the celebrations, India will remember its freedom fighters and rekindle the history related to them.

A senior official of art, culture and youth affairs department said, “The three places from State, which have been selected for ‘Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav’ have religious and cultural sig-



nificance of State. While Ulihatu is birthplace of legendary tribal icon Bhagwan Birsa Munda, the two others—Maluti in Dumka district and Rajmahal in Sahibganj have cultural importance.” Birsa Munda the great Indian freedom fighter, religious leader and tribal folk hero was born on November 15, 1875 in Ulihatu in Bengal Presidency now in Khunti district. Birsa’s spirit of activism is remembered as a strong mark of protest against the British rule as he spearheaded the Millenarian movement.



Maluti village near Shikaripara in Dumka district has a group of 72 extant terracotta temples. These temples were built between the 17th and 19th centuries. The kings of Baj Basanta dynasty built these temples in Maluti, their Capital, inspired by goddess Mowlakshi, their family deity. Many of the temples are deified with different denominations of gods and goddesses, apart from the tutelary deity Mowlakshi, and others such as Shiva, Durga, Kali and Vishnu. The Rajmahal hills are home



to plant fossils, which are 68 to 145 million years old. Situated on the right bank of the river Ganges, Rajmahal is a small but historically important town. It was the seat of Government during the Mughal period when Raja Man Singh, general of Emperor Akbar made Rajmahal the capital of Bengal in 1592. Even today relics of the old and prosperous Rajmahal are visible in this one time capital of Bengal.

As part of Amrut Mahotsav many events will be held throughout the year, which include street plays at all three historical places in the first week of August, speech competition, in the second week, essay competition (at college and university level), cycle rally in the third week in the last week of August. Apart from these seminars will be organized (college, university and state level) in the first week of September, cleanliness campaign at all three historical places in the second week and state level essay, speech competition will be organized in the last week.

INBRIEF

SAHAY TWEETS FOR FRONTLINE WORKERS’ STATUS TO SCRIBES



“During the pandemic, 37 Journalists in Jharkhand have lost their lives. The State government should look into the observation made by the Supreme Court that frontline workers should be given compensation in case of death while performing duty. I request you to declare the journalists of the state as frontline warriors and the government should hold a joint meeting to discuss the social, economic, and security needs of frontline workers, as well as provide financial assistance to the families of deceased journalists,” tweeted former Union Minister Subodh Kant Sahay.

VIRTUAL GURU PURNIMA AT SBPS



The students of Sarala Birla Public School, Ranchi observed Guru Purnima virtually. They recited Sanskrit Shlokas highlighting the instrumental role played by a guru in a student’s life. School Head Personnel & Admin Dr. Pradipt Varma appreciated the efforts made by school in inculcating values among the students. Principal, Paramjit Kaur said that a guru plays a crucial role in moulding a student’s character. Such activities are helpful in inculcating moral values in our children.

SR DCM GIVEN ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF CPRO



Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Ranchi Railway Division, Avneesh, has been given additional charge of Chief Public Relations Officer of Ranchi Railway Division. Earlier, Neeraj Kumar was the Chief Public Relations Officer here, who has now moved to the post of Chief Public Relations Officer at Garden Reach, Kolkata, Headquarters of South Eastern Railway.

BSS GETS PHYSIOTHERAPY CENTRE

An NHM official inaugurated a physiotherapy centre at Bharat Sevashram, Tupudana on Saturday on the occasion of Guru Purnima. Ashram head Swami Ranjan Maharaj informed that the centre will be functional from August 1 and aims to benefit rural denizens around the vicinity. City residents can also take advantage. He added that physiotherapy is need of the hour.

RAMITA RAJAN PREZ OF LIONS CLUB OF ADITYAPUR GREATER



At the silver Jubilee Installation Ceremony of Lions Club of Adityapur Greater held today at Asia Bhawan Lion Ramita Rajan, was today installed as the President of the Club for the Lionistic Year 2021-22. He took charge from outgoing President Lion Bibhu Kumar Verma. Lion Ramita Rajan will be assisted by Vice President Lion Gautam Prasad. Past District Governor Lion Nalini Mukherjee, installed the new office bearers of the Lions Club of Adityapur Greater which included Lion Reena Prasad as the Club Secretary while Lion S P Sinha Mukul will be the new Treasurer. Lion Rajeev Ranjan, Past District Governor was given the oath of office as the Club Service Chairperson. Lion Seema Bajpai as Club Administrator, Lion Harish Oza as Membership Chairperson. Lion Shashi Shekhar as Chairperson Environment, Lion Rajesh Rajan as Club Marketing Chairperson, Lion Preeti Sinha was made to look after One Multiple One Activity and Lion Satyavati Singh and Lion Vijay Kumar Singh as Club Tail Twister and Tamer. Lion Vimmi Ranjan, Lion Santosh Bajpai were installed as Club Directors.

MSB HOLDS WOMEN’S HEALTH AWARENESS PROGRAM



Under the corporate social responsibility of Bokaro Power Supply, an awareness campaign on women’s health was organized in village Chaura by Mahila Samiti Bokaro in collaboration with Piramal Health. Under which the women of the village were told about the utility of sanitary napkins and also free sanitary napkins were distributed among them. Representatives of Piramal Health including members of the Executive Committee of Mahila Samiti Bokaro were present during the program.

MoUs to boost education among youths in Jamshedpur



PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

Tata Steel Foundation (TSF) signed two Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with Kudy Mahanty Chirens' Opportunities (KMCO) Trust and Cummins India Foundation (CIF) today in an attempt to garner opportunities in the education sector.

The MoU with KMCO, a Jamshedpur-based charitable trust founded in memory of Kudy Mahanty in the year 2000, was signed by Sourav Roy, Chief, Corporate Social Responsibility, Tata Steel and Ms Smita Agarwal, Head (Education) on behalf of Tata Steel and Mr Niroop Mohanty, President, KMCO and Ms

Rupa Mahanty, Chairperson, KMCO on behalf the Trust, in the presence of Ruchi Narendran.

The one-year partnership with KMCO aims to undertake various developmental projects for underprivileged children residing in urban slums of the city. As a part of the partnership, KMCO will undertake the provision of tablets to schools under Masti Ki Pathshala. This programme, operated by Tata Steel Foundation, enables a learning bridge between schools and children from slums of Jamshedpur through residential and non-residential schools, with the sole purpose of making the city a child-labour free zone. The MoU is

intended to equip these centres digitally to ensure smooth and continuous learning practices for the students.

The agreement will also enable a roll out of a non-residential bridge course for children residing in slum areas along the 4km stretch of Marine Drive. There are a total of 15 slums in this stretch that house more than 800 children who have either dropped out of schools or are highly irregular. With domain expertise in the field, the Foundation has partnered with KMCO for building a special course of six months and bringing the kids back to schools.

The partnership with CIF will work towards special

THE PARTNERSHIP WITH CIF WILL WORK TOWARDS SPECIAL SKILL TRAINING OF STUDENTS AT TATA STEEL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE (TSTI) TO PROVIDE INDUSTRIAL TRAINING TO LOCAL YOUTHS

skill training of students at Tata Steel Technical Institute (TSTI) to provide industrial training to local youths. CIF runs a Technical Education for Communities (TEC) programme which is a global initiative that targets the technical skill gap through local vocational education initiatives and the partnership will ensure training of around 270 local youths. Under the collaboration, a standardized education platform will be delivered that will help the institute develop market-relevant curriculum, teachers' training, career guidance and the practical experience that the students will have.

Speaking on the occasion, Roy said: "Masti ki Pathshala is an effort to create a citizen's movement to persistently and meaningfully use education as a means for the most underserved children and youth of Jamshedpur to transform their lives. Our partnerships with KMCO and CIF will not only work towards bringing children back to schools but also increase employment opportunities of youths through the highest quality of vocational instruction."

Director-in-charge of BSL flagged off new rake



PNS ■ BOKARO

BSL has tied up with Texmaco Rail & Engineering to acquire 6 rakes (Box N HL) under GPWIS (General Purpose Wagon Investment Scheme) approved by the Railways. The flag-off of the first rake procured by BSL under this agreement was done by Amarendu Prakash, Director-in-Charge, BSL. On this occasion, the Executive Director of BSL, Chief General Manager and senior officers of the Traffic Department were present.

The cost of this project of Bokaro Steel Plant is about ₹110 crore. These rakes will be operated on the route from Kiriburu-Meghataburu to Bokaro Steel Plant. BSL will also get 10 per cent rebate from the Railways for 15 years on the

transportation of iron ore from these rakes. Thus, BSL is expected to get a discount of about ₹4 lakh per freight. Apart from this, due to delay in loading and unloading, there will also be savings in payment to railways as demurrage charges.

The color coding of these wagons has been separated from the wagons of the railways and will not be mixed with the wagons of the railways. This facility will also solve the problem of non-availability of rakes and ensure timely transportation of raw material from the mines to the plant.

It is noteworthy that under this project 6 rakes are being provided to Bokaro Steel Plant, 4 rakes to Bhilai Steel Plant and 3 rakes to Durgapur Steel Plant in SAIL. BSL has got the distinction of getting the first rake among them.

FIR against 12 for stealing power, ₹1.20L fine imposed

PNS ■ BOKARO

The electricity department officials conducted raids at different urban and rural locations in Chas and lodged FIR against twelve people for stealing electric power at the local police stations and fined Rs 1.20 lakhs to the defaulters.

CRM-3 personnel awarded in BSL



RAHUL SHARMA ■ BOKARO

Chief General Manager (CRM-3) Rajan Prasad felicitated the personnel who revived four base fan motors from old scrap motors in CRM-3 of BSL by presenting Certificate of Appreciation and memento. On this occasion General Manager (CRM-3) Akhouri Ashok Kumar, General Manager (ERS) BK Rai along with other officers and personnel of CRM-3 were present.

Base fan is used in the Bell Annealing Furnace of CRM-3, a part of which remains in the furnace. Due to excessive heat, the shaft of the motor was getting bent hence the fans were damaged.

At present the suppliers of this fan were expressing their inability to supply. To overcome

this problem, a team was formed under the guidance of CGM (CRM-3) Rajan Prasad, GM (CRM-3) Prabhat Ranjan, and GM (ERS) BK Rai in which AGM (CRM-3) Pankaj Lata, AGM (CRM-3) Madhu BN and various members jointly examined the various aspects of the problem closely. After that drawing was made with the help of reverse engineering and four shafts were manufactured and tested with their own internal resources which are now working satisfactorily and allowed to overcome this problem hence productivity was also maintained. Encouraging the workers on the occasion, Rajan Prasad said that this joint effort of the team would not only increase the availability of base fans, but would also save the plant cost of about ₹60 lakhs.

RPF steps up drive against contraband narcotic, recovers 36 kgs of marijuana

PNS ■ DALTONGANJ

The RPF in Palamu - Garhwa region has stepped up its drive against contraband narcotic marijuana which sees a spurt during the onset of the holy month, Sawan.

Sources said the consumption of the marijuana picks up as users see it as an essential ritual during this Sawan month.

Sources said the senior commandant of the RPF Dhanbad Hemant Kumar has

directed his officials to go for a massive checking in the trains to smoke out narcotic or liquor brought shipped surreptitious-ly.

A task force has been set up in the entire stretch of the Dhanbad division of the railways under order of the senior commandant of the RPF Dhanbad Hemant Kumar.

SIPF-cum-incharge RPF Garhwa Road railway station Kumar Nayan Singh said a team of 5 personnel led by assistant sub inspector of police Fabian Kullu recovered 36 kgs of marijuana kept unclaimed in the gallery of the toilet of a general coach of the Sambalpur Maruadih express train last night.



कार्यालय: वन प्रमंडल पदाधिकारी, चतरा दक्षिणी वन प्रमंडल

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सूचना संख्या – 01/2021

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अति अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना

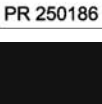
सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि चतरा दक्षिणी वन प्रमंडल के अंतर्गत अंतिम रूप से राज्यसात वाहनों की जहाँ है, जिस स्थिति में है के आधार पर बिंदी हेतु मुहरबंद लिफाफे में निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदाएँ निर्धारित तिथि को 10:00 बजे पूर्वान्ह से 2:00 बजे अपराह्न तक प्रमंडलीय कार्यालय में प्राप्त की जायेगी एवं उसी दिन निविददाता या उसके प्रतिनिधि के समक्ष 3.00 बजे अपराह्न में खोली जायेगी। किसी भी वाहन के लिए उच्चतम मूल्य/उच्चतम निविदा की राशि स्वीकार करने के लिए अद्योहस्ताक्षरी बाध्य नहीं होंगे एवं उसे बिना कोई कारण बताये बिंदी से उठा लेने या रद्द करने के लिए सक्षम होंगे। निविदा स्वीकृति प्राप्त होते ही निविदत मूल्य का 15 प्रतिशत प्रतिभूति राशि सफल निविदादाता को जमा करना अनिवार्य होगा एवं 30 (तीस) दिनों के अन्दर पूरी राशि एवं बिंदी कर, अन्य देय करों सहित जमा करना होगा। अगर निविदादाता निर्धारित समय के अंतर्गत पूरी राशि जमा नहीं कर पाते है तो उनके द्वारा जमा किया गया अग्रधन/प्रतिभूति राशि बिना कोई कारण बताये राज्यसात कर ली जायेगी। निविददाता को निविदा के साथ अग्रधन के रूप में ट्रक एवं ट्रैक्टर के लिए 10,000.00 रु०, बेलेरो मैक्सी ट्रक, पिकअप मान एवं बोलेरा के लिए 5000.00 एवं मोटरसाईकिल के लिए 2000.00 रु० मात्र का बैंक ड्राफ्ट जो केवल भारतीय स्टेट बैंक, चतरा में भुगतये हो एवं "वन प्रमंडल पदाधिकारी, चतरा दक्षिणी वन प्रमंडल" के पक्ष में भुगतये हो जमा करना होगा। असफल निविददाताओं को अग्रधन की राशि तुरंत वापस कर दी जायेगी। सफल निविदादाता द्वारा दी गई अग्रधन राशि प्रतिभूति राशि में समायोजित कर ली जायेगी। इच्छुक निविददाता निविदा देने के पूर्व किसी भी दिन कार्यालय अवधि में वाहनों का निरीक्षण कर सकते है। निविदा प्रपत्र अद्योहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय में कार्य अवधि में दिनांक 26.07.2021 से 31.07.2021 तक 200.00 (दो सौ) रु० मात्र शुल्क जमा कर प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। निविददाता डाक द्वारा भी निविदा भेज सकते है, बशर्ते कि विहित प्रपत्र में निविदा, अग्रधन राशि सहित मुहरबंद लिफाफे में निर्धारित तिथि को 2.00 बजे अपराह्न तक कार्यालय में प्राप्त हो जाय। विस्तृत सूचना के लिए कार्यालय अवधि में अद्योहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय में सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है।

वाहनों की सूची जिसके लिए निविदा आमंत्रित है :

| क्रम सं० | वाहनों का नाम | निबंधन संख्या | स्थान/कार्यालय, जहाँ वाहन स्थित है |
|----------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. | ट्रक | HR55F-0342 | सिमरिया थाना परिसर |
| 2. | ट्रक | BR13B-8209 | ईटखोरी थाना परिसर |
| 3. | ट्रक | JH02F-2074 | चतरा वन परिसर के कैम्पस में |
| 4. | ट्रैक्टर एवं टेलर | BR13B-0376 BR13B-0377 | सिमरिया थाना परिसर |
| 5. | बेलेरो मैक्सी ट्रक | JH01AM- 6649 | ईटखोरी थाना परिसर |
| 6. | पिकअप मान | JH02Y-4955 | चतरा वन परिसर के कैम्पस में |
| 7. | मोटरसाईकिल | JH01E-9071 | चतरा वन क्षेत्र के कैम्पस में |
| 8. | बोलेरो | JH13A- 2756 | चतरा वन क्षेत्र के कैम्पस में |

आमंत्रित निविदा की तिथि

| क्रम सं० | माह | निविदा की तिथि | निविदा प्राप्त करने का समय | निविदा खोलने का समय |
|----------|-------------|----------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | जुलाई, 2021 | 31.07.2021 | 2:00 बजे अपराह्न | 3:00 बजे अपराह्न |



कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय

भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमण्डल सं०-2, रैंची

E-mail : eecbdrandiv2@gmail.com

- अति-अल्पकालीन निविदा/कोटेशन आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या-12/2021-22**
- विज्ञापनदाता का पदनाम एवं पता : कार्यपालक अभियन्ता, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमण्डल सं०-2, रैंची।
 - परिमाण विपत्र बिंदी की तिथि एवं समय: दिनांक 02.08.2021 को 1.00 बजे अपराह्न तक
 - निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक 03.08.2021 को 3.00 बजे अपराह्न तक।
 - निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक 03.08.2021 को 3.30 बजे अपराह्न।
 - परिमाण विपत्र बिंदी का स्थान : 1) अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन अंचल सं०-2, रैंची के प्रतिनियुक्त पदाधिकारी द्वारा एवं (2) कार्यपालक अभियन्ता, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमण्डल सं०-2, रैंची के प्रतिनियुक्त पदाधिकारी द्वारा नगर नियंत्रण कक्ष रैंची में।
 - निविदा प्राप्ति का स्थान : नगर नियंत्रण कक्ष रैंची में कार्यपालक अभियन्ता, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमण्डल सं०-2, रैंची के प्रतिनियुक्त पदाधिकारी द्वारा।
 - निविदा खोलने का स्थान : अद्योहस्ताक्षरी का कार्यालय
 - कार्य की विवरणी :

| क्र० सं० | कार्य का नाम | प्रारंक्षित राशि | परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य | अग्रधन की राशि | कार्य की अवधि | आवश्यक यंत्र संचंत्र |
|----------|---|------------------|------------------------|----------------|---------------|---|
| 1 | Day to day Maintenance of Floor, Corridor, Stair, W.C., & Out side of M.D.I. Building & A.D.B. (P.W.D.) in the Campus of M.D.I. Building at H.E.C., Dhurwa, Ranchi For the Year 2021-22. | 41,33,600.00 | 5000.00 | 84,000.00 | Twelve Months | 'Single Disc Scrubbing Machine to clean floor surface, Dryer Machine, High Jet Pressure Cleaner, Wet & Dry Vacuum Cleaner |
| 2 | Day to Day Maintenance of Floor, Corridor, Stair, W.C., and outside of JSBCL Building in the Campus of MDI Building at H.E.C., Dhurwa, Ranchi For the Year 2021-22. | 31,16,900.00 | 5000.00 | 64000.00 | Twelve Months | 'Single Disc Scrubbing Machine to clean floor surface, Dryer Machine, High Jet Pressure Cleaner, Wet & Dry Vacuum Cleaner |
| 3 | Day to Day Maintenance of Floor, Corridor, Stair, W.C., and outside of Conference Hall Building in the Campus of Project Bhawan at H.E.C., Dhurwa, Ranchi For the Year 2021-22. | 29,38,700.00 | 5000.00 | 59000.00 | Twelve Months | 'Single Disc Scrubbing Machine to clean floor surface, Dryer Machine, High Jet Pressure Cleaner, Wet & Dry Vacuum Cleaner |
| 4 | Day to Day Maintenance of Floor, Corridor, Stair, W.C., and outside of F.F.P. Building at H.E.C., Dhurwa, Ranchi For the Year 2021-22. | 36,64,100.00 | 5000.00 | 74000.00 | Twelve Months | 'Single Disc Scrubbing Machine to clean floor surface, Dryer Machine, High Jet Pressure Cleaner, Wet & Dry Vacuum Cleaner |
| 5 | Day to Day Sanitization work at Jharkhand Mantralaya (Project Building), Conference Hall Building & Canteen-Cum-Barrack Building in the Campus of Jharkhand Mantralaya at H.E.C., Dhurwa, Ranchi for the year 2021-22 | 26,68,000.00 | 5000.00 | 54000.00 | Twelve Months | Mini Fogger cum mister machine, Battery operated or manual spray machine |
| 6 | Day to Day Sanitization work of M.D.I. Building & A.D.B. Building, F.F.P. Building & JSBCL Building in the Campus of M.D.I. Building at H.E.C., Dhurwa, Ranchi for the year 2021-22 | 24,81,900.00 | 5000.00 | 50000.00 | Twelve Months | Mini Fogger cum mister machine, Battery operated or manual spray machine |

नोट : निविदा की सर्तें www.jharkhand.gov.in एवं कार्यालय के सूचना पट्ट पर देखी जा सकती है

कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमण्डल संख्या-2, रैंची

PR 250183 Building(21-22)#D

MINOR IRRIGATION DIVISION, BOKARO

Tender inviting e-Procurement Notice

Tender Reference No. RURBAN/WRD/MIDVIBOKARO/F.- 01/2021-22

Date :- 23.07.2021

| | | |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Name of the work | Construction of Market Complex in Sivaljori Cluster in Block - Chandankiyari |
| 2. | Estimated Cost (Rs.) | Rs. 97,71,300.00 |
| 3. | Time of Completion | 180 Days |
| 4. | Last date/Time for receipt of bids online | 16.08.2021 Up to 5.00 P.M. |
| 5. | Date of Publication of Tender on website | 10.08.2021 Up to 12:30 P.M. |
| 6. | Date of Opening of Tender on website | 18.07.2021 Up to 12:30 P.M. |
| 7. | Name & address of office Inviting tender | Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division, Bokaro, Camp - II, Qr. No- D/1, B, S. City, Bokaro, Jharkhand, Pin no- 827001 |
| 8. | Contact details of e-Procurement officer | 8083010040, 9431321218 emidibok-cemr-jhr@nic.in |
| 9. | Helpline number of e-Procurement cell | 9576782782 |

Note : (i) Only e-Tenders will be accepted. The tender amount may be changed at time of Publication on website.
(ii) Tenderer(s) shall upload scanned copy of updated details of GST in Form GSTR 3B with tender documents.
(iii) Seniority will be consider as per the Clause 4.5 of Notification no. 6/WRD-105-Misc -17/12-4590 dated 29.10.2018 of Jharkhand Water Resource Contractor Registration Circular 2018.
Further details can be seen on website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>

Executive Engineer,
Minor Irrigation Division, Bokaro

PR 250177 (Minor Irrigation) 21-22 (D)

धनबाद समाहरणालय (जिला भू- अर्जन शाखा)

ज्ञापांक- 745 / भू0अ0 दिनांक-06.07.2021
असाधारण अंक सं०-14 दिनांक-09.07.2021

-: अधिसूचना :-

गोविन्दपुर एन0एच0-2 से महुदा मोड़ भाया श्रमिक चौक, बैंक मोड़ धनबाद पथ परियोजना हेतु अंचल- धनबाद, मौजा- कोलाकुमाना, मौजा सं०-12 में अर्जित की जा रही भूमि के भू-अर्जन के लिए भूमि अर्जन पुर्नवासन और पुर्नयवस्थापन में उचित प्रतिकार और पारदर्शिता का अधिकार अधिनियम, 2013 के अनुरूप भूमि का स्थलीय एवं अभिलेखीय सत्यापन कार्यपालक अभियन्ता, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमंडल, धनबाद द्वारा मूल्यांकन प्रतिवेदन उपलब्ध नहीं करा पाया है एवं राज्य को कोविड-19 के लॉकडाउन अवधि के कारण निर्धारित अवधि में अधिनियम की धारा -19(1) के अन्तर्गत अधिघोषणा ससमय निर्गत नहीं किया जा सका है।

अतः गोविन्दपुर एन0एच0-2 से महुदा मोड़ भाया श्रमिक चौक, बैंक मोड़ धनबाद पथ परियोजना हेतु अंचल- धनबाद, मौजा- कोलाकुमाना, मौजा सं०-12 में रकबा-0.0710 एकड़ रैयती भूमि का भू-अर्जन के लिए भूमि अर्जन पुर्नवासन और पुर्नयवस्थापन में उचित प्रतिकार और पारदर्शिता का अधिकार अधिनियम, 2013 की धारा-19(1) में प्रदत्त भावितियों का प्रयोग करते हुए अधिनियम की धारा-19(1) के अन्तर्गत अधिघोषणा हेतु दिनांक-31.05.2021 से 30.05.2022 तक एक वर्ष की अवधि विस्तार की स्वीकृति प्रदान किया जाता है।

ह0 / -
समुचित सरकार
-सह-
उपमुख्य, धनबाद

PR 250181 Revenue(21-22).D

कार्यालय जिला परिषद्, चतरा

(अतिअल्पकालिक ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना)

3rd Call

दिनांक: 23.07.2021

ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या – 15/2021-22

1. कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणी :

| क्र० | प्रखण्ड | पंचायत | ग्राम | कार्य का नाम | परिमाण विपत्र की राशि | अग्रधन की राशि | परिमाण विपत्र करने का मूल्य | कार्य पूर्ण अवधि |
|------|-------------|----------|----------|---|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 01 | कान्हाचट्टी | चिरिदिसी | चिरिदिसी | आर०ई०ओ० रोड से बूढ़ीगड़ा देवी स्थान होते हुए सिमराडीह तक पीसीसी पथ निर्माण। | 4890103 | 98000 | 5000 | 03 माह |

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि – 28 / 07 / 2021

3. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय – 31.07.2021 से 07.08.2021 के अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक

4. जिला परिषद, चतरा में निविदा शुल्क, अग्रधन की राशि, Bank Credit Certificate एवं Affidavit जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 10.08.2021 अपराह्न 05:00 बजे तक

5. निविदा खोलने का स्थान :- जिला परिषद, चतरा।

6. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय – 11.08.2021 अपराह्न 2:00 बजे

7. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता :- जिला अभियंता, जिला परिषद, चतरा।

8. निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं० – 8800869950 (संबंधित कार्यपालक अभियंता का दूरभाष नम्बर)

9. निविदा शुल्क भारतीय स्टेट बैंक / बैंक ऑफ इण्डिया द्वारा निर्गत ड्राफ्ट या बैंकर्स चेक जो जिला अभियंता, जिला परिषद, चतरा के पदनाम से देय हो देना होगा।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये वेबसाइट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in एवं कार्यालय की सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

जिला अभियंता,
जिला परिषद, चतरा

PR 250152 District(21-22)#D

NTPC Dulanga distributes Land records to displaced Villagers



PNS ■ RANCHI

NTPC Dulanga Coal Mining Project has distributed Land records (Pattas) to displaced villagers today at the Community Hall of Majhapada, R&R Colony constructed for the displaced villagers.

On the occasion Collector and District Magistrate of Sundargarh, Nikhil Pavan

Kalyan (IAS), inaugurated the Community Centre of Majhapada in the august presence of displaced villagers.

After inauguration, Collector & DM Nikhil Pavan Kalyan distributed Patta to the displaced villagers in the presence of Partha Mazumder, Regional Executive Director(Coal Mining) NTPC Coal Mining Headquarters, Ranchi, C. R. Barik, Head of Project, Dulanga Coal Mining Project, Abhimanyu Behera, Sub Collector, Sundargarh and S.K.Ray, GM (Project) ,NTPC

Dulanga.

During the meeting Collector and District Magistrate, Sundargarh appreciated the initiatives taken by NTPC Dulanga to improve upon the life standard of the displaced villagers in R&R Colony. He has also appreciated RED(Coal Mining) to be a part of the program and his concern for the stakeholders. RED(Coal Mining), Mazumder during his address to the gathering expressed his happiness on the development of this Dulanga coal mine and especially its R&R Colony. He said that Dulanga mine would be a model Mine under the fleet of NTPC Mines.

In order to provide Banking facilities to the displaced villagers in R&R Colony, NTPC- Dulanga CMP has facilitated the opening of ICICI Bank in the R&R Colony. Under this provision one ATM of ICICI bank has been installed in the Market Complex at R&R Colony and was inaugurated by the Collector and District Magistrate of Sundargarh.

To commemorate the series of events, Plantation Program has been organized inside the complex of Majhapada Community Centre. All the dignitaries present at the venue have planted saplings to make the event special.

ESL begins converting cars into electric vehicles

To completely shift to EVs by 2025

PNS ■ BOKARO

Aiming to reduce carbon footprint, fossil fuel consumption and greenhouse gas (GHS) emissions ESL— a Vedanta Group Company and a key national steel player introduces electronic vehicles for employees commuting in Bokaro under its ESL Ride Green initiative.

This will help in reducing 430 tonnes of carbon emission yearly due to the fuel efficiency of EVs as compared to the conventional vehicles that run on petrol or diesel, informed a Public Relation official of ESL.

Booster shot with 2nd gen vax needed: AIIMS



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Director Dr Randeep Guleria on Saturday said that India might have to adopt a booster dose with second-generation Covid-19 vaccines as the Delta variant of the coronavirus has swept across the world and driven up infections in several countries.

He further said Bharat Biotech's Covaxin trials for children are presently under-way and the results are expected to be released by September.

"It seems that we probably need the booster dose of vaccines as with the passage of time the immunity tends to fall," Dr Guleria said. "There is waning immunity. We would like to have a booster dose that will cover for various emerging variants," Dr Guleria said adding that the booster dose will be a second-generation vaccine.

"We will have second-generation vaccines which would be better in terms of the immunity they give, covering of the new variants and a having a



better overall efficacy," Dr Guleria said.

On Covaxin trials on children, he said: "The Bharat Biotech's Covaxin trials should be over by August or September, and by that time we should get an approval. Pfizer vaccine has been already approved by the FDA (US regulator - Food and Drug Administration). Hopefully, by September, we should start vaccinating children, and that will be a big boost as far as breaking the chain of transmission is concerned."

Dr Guleria's statement comes as the second dose of Covaxin is likely to be administered to children aged 2-6 years in trials next week. "We need to get our own vaccines too - that's why both Bharat Biotech and Zydus are impor-

tant. Getting the Pfizer vaccine will also be helpful, as there is enough data to suggest it's safe... but we can't be sure if we will get required numbers. We will hopefully have more than one vaccine for children by September," he said. The second dose of Covaxin has already been given to children between the ages of 6-12 years at the Delhi AIIMS. Besides Covaxin, the trials for Zydus Cadila's vaccine for children are also currently underway in the country.

On June 7, Delhi AIIMS started screening children between the age of 2 to 17 for trials of Covid-19 vaccine. On May 12, the DCGI granted permission to Bharat Biotech to carry out phase 2, phase 3 trials of Covaxin on children as young as two.

ICSE declares Class 10th, 12th Board results



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Council of Indian School Certificate Examination (CISCE), which conducts the exams for the Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE), or Class 10, and Indian School Certificate (ISC), or Class 12, on Saturday declared the results of the cancelled exams.

The overall pass percentage for this year is 99.98 per cent for ICSE results and 99.76 per cent for ISC results.

The CBSE is scheduled to declare the results any day next week.

The Southern region has secured the best pass percentage for the Class 10th and Class 12th exam results followed by the Western region in Class 10th results and Northern region for Class 12th results. While the pass percentage for the Southern region in ICSE results is 100 per cent, it is 99.91 per cent for ISC exams.

Delhi NCR has recorded a pass percentage of 100 percent. In ISC Class 12 results, Delhi has also recorded 99.93%.

The overall pass percentage in West Bengal for ICSE is 99.98 per cent and it is 99.63 per cent for ISC Class 12th. As many as 39,520 and 26,859 students have enrolled for Class

Delhi NCR has recorded a pass percentage of 100%. In ISC Class 12 results, Delhi has also recorded 99.93%.

10th ICSE and ISC Class 12th exams respectively.

Odisha has recorded a pass percentage of 99.98 per cent in the ICSE results While in ISC Class 12 results, the state has recorded 99.83 per cent. In this year, 8,935 students have appeared for the ICSE examination. For ISC exams, 1,813 have appeared this year.

The overall pass percentage in Punjab for ICSE is 99.99 per cent and it is 99.79 per cent for ISC Class 12th. As many as 13,773 and 2,796 students have enrolled for Class 10th ICSE and ISC Class 12th exams respectively.

Karnataka has recorded a pass percentage of 100 per cent in the ICSE results While in ISC Class 12 results, the state has also recorded 99.95 per cent. The analysis of results of other States were being examined till the report filed.

Cong appoints new State chiefs in Assam, Manipur

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Saturday made changes in its Assam and Manipur units. While Bhupen Bora was appointed as chief of its Assam unit by replacing party's Rajya Sabha member Ripun Bora for the post, Loken Singh was appointed interim president of the Manipur Pradesh Congress with immediate effect till a full-time chief is named.

With this the Congress has effected changes in four States within a week's time including Punjab and Uttarakhand. Of the changes done, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Manipur goes to assembly polls next year while elections were conducted in April this year in Assam where the party's performance was not good.

Continuing with the organisational revamp, a party statement said Congress pres-

ident Sonia Gandhi has appointed Bhupen Bora as president of the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) and also named three working presidents -- Rana Goswami, Kamalakhya Dey Purkayastha and Jakir Hussain Sikdar.

The organisational changes in the state unit came weeks after the party's defeat in the assembly polls for which it entered into a grand alliance with the Badruddin Ajmal-led AIUDF and some other parties but failed to stop the BJP from coming back to power.

The party appreciates the contributions of outgoing APCC president Ripun Bora, the statement said.

Bhupen Bora and Rana Goswami are being relieved from their present responsibilities as All India Congress Committee secretaries, it said.

In another appointment, Loken Singh was appointed

interim president of the Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee with immediate effect till a full-time chief is named.

AICC general secretary Organisation K C Venugopal in a statement said the Congress high has appointed Nameirakpam Loken Singh as the interim president of the Manipur unit of the party. The development took place following the resignation of party leader Govindas Konthoujam as the MPC president a few days ago. The appointment of Loken Singh, senior vice-president of the MPCC, comes into force with immediate effect. Venugopal said that Loken Singh, also an MLA, will be in his new position till a full-time state unit president is appointed.

Also, the party named Arya Kumar Jnanendra as chief organiser for the Odisha Pradesh Congress Seva Dal.

SC junks PIL to declare NCLT can't act as appellate authority

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has declined to entertain a PIL seeking to declare that the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) cannot act as an appellate authority to the decisions of the top court and find flaws so as to circumvent the "rule of law" laid down.

A bench of Justices D Y Chandrachud and M R Shah said the petition is clearly not maintainable and there is no reason to entertain the petition under Article 32.

"It is not necessary for this court to return any finding on the question sought to be raised in the abstract without any live challenge to an order of the adjudicating

authority. In any event there are appellate remedies available under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) to an aggrieved party. The petition is dismissed," the bench said.

The apex court was hearing a PIL filed by one Ashok Surana seeking to declare that the NCLT cannot act as an appellate authority to the decisions of this court and find flaws so as to circumvent the "rule of law" laid down.

The plea also sought directions that the "rule of law" laid down by the top court is binding on the authorities below without any conditions and cannot be

sidelined or overruled.

"Declare that the rule of constructive res judicata (matter decided) applies to the decisions of this court and is a fundamental rule which sustains the rule of law in ensuring finality to litigation," the plea said.

Surana submitted that the NCLT has misinterpreted the judgments of this court and, hence, the invocation of the jurisdiction under Article 32 is sought to be justified.

He also clarified that he is not a party to any of the proceedings before the adjudicating authority under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016. PTI

Classic case of missing spine: Rahul at Govt's vax drive timeline comment

IANS ■ NEW DELHI

A day after the Government informed Parliament that no fixed timeline can be indicated at present for the completion of the vaccination drive, former Congress President Rahul Gandhi on Saturday took a swipe saying people's lives are on the line and it's a classic case of a missing spine.

In a tweet he said, "People's lives on the line, Government admits no timeline, classic case of missing spine."

He tweeted with the hashtag of #WhereAreVaccines.

His remarks came a day after the government said that no fixed timeline can be indicated at present for the com-



pletion of the vaccination drive.

The Government said it is expected that beneficiaries aged 18 years and above will be vaccinated by December 2021.

Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Bharati

Pravin Pawar in response to Congress MP Rahul Gandhi and Lok Sabha MP Mala Roy's unstarred question said, "The Covid-19 vaccination is an ongoing and dynamic process, which is being guided by National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for Covid-19 (NEGVAK) on the basis of concurrent scientific evidence."

She said that in view of the dynamic and evolving nature of the Covid-19 pandemic, "no fixed timeline at present can be indicated for the completion of vaccination drive".

Pawar said, "However, it is expected that beneficiaries aged 18 years and above will be vaccinated by December 2021."

SC to hear plea on premature release from jail

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has agreed to hear a plea that has raised a legal issue as to whether the policy for premature release from jail existing at the time of conviction or the subsequent one which is in existence at the time of consideration of such relief would be applicable.

The apex court sought the response of the Madhya Pradesh government and others within four weeks on the plea filed by a convict, who is serving a life term and is seeking directions to the state to release him from jail on the grounds that he has undergone a sentence of over 20 years including the period of remission.

The petitioner has said that he also qualifies under the policy for premature release which was applicable at the time of his conviction in the case.

The plea came up for hearing on Friday before a bench of justices L Nageswara Rao and Hrishikesh Roy which issued a notice seeking the response of the state government and others.

"Issue notice returnable in four weeks," the bench said.

The petition, filed through advocate Rishi Malhotra, said the petitioner was convicted by a trial court in a case of 1996 along with others and was sentenced to life imprisonment in September 2005.

The plea said at the time of his conviction, the policy for premature release dated December 4, 1978 was applicable.

"However, for the first time on January 10, 2012, there was a substantial change/departure from the said policy wherein it stipulated that such prisoners who are facing life imprisonment would have to undergo actual sentence of 20 years with a total sentence of 26 years," it said.

The plea said as per the December 1978 policy, any convict who has been sentenced to life imprisonment after December 18, 1978 and has undergone 14 years of the actual sentence and completed a total sentence of 20 years would be entitled to premature release. PTI

MP, Gujarat likely to get intense rainfall in next 2-3 days: IMD



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Parts of central and adjoining west India, particularly the States of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat, are likely to have some intense rainfall activity for the next two-three days. The India Meteorology Department (IMD) on Saturday said rainfall intensity along the west coast is expected to decrease over the next 24 hours, in a much needed relief to rain-battered Maharashtra and Goa. Rainfall activity will increase over the north Indian plains and hills from July 25, it said.

Having already drenched Chhattisgarh, Telangana, east Madhya Pradesh and central Maharashtra, the system has now shifted its focus on to the western half of Madhya Pradesh. The IMD has indicated that the system will produce isolated extremely heavy falls over west Madhya Pradesh on Saturday, July 24.

Therefore, a red warning has been issued over the sub-division for the day, as it instructs the residents to 'take action' to protect themselves from rough weather. Meanwhile, since the beginning of the monsoon period on June 1, both Madhya Pradesh

and Gujarat have received below-average rainfall.

"Further reduction in rainfall intensity is very likely along the west coast, including Konkan, Goa and adjoining interior Maharashtra, during the next 24 hours," the IMD said. "Fairly widespread to widespread rainfall with isolated heavy to very heavy falls (a r e) very likely to continue over west coast, including Maharashtra, on July 24 and isolated heavy falls thereafter," it said. Extremely heavy rains have killed scores of people in Maharashtra over the past few days, submerging several areas and damaging property.

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) has enhanced the number of its teams from 26 to 34 for undertaking rescue operations in the coastal areas of Maharashtra that have been hit by landslides and floods triggered by heavy rainfall.

A spokesperson for the federal contingency force said these teams are being deployed in affected areas of Mumbai, Ratnagiri, Thane, Palghar, Raigad, Satara, Sangli, Sindhudurg, Kolhapur, Pune and Nagpur for rescue and relief work after consultation

with the state administration.

"In view of the severity of the situation, additional eight NDRF teams have been airlifted from Kolkata and Vadodara base which are being deployed in affected areas of Maharashtra," the spokesperson said. "This will take the total NDRF deployment to 34 teams," the spokesperson said.

The IMD said scattered to fairly widespread rainfall with isolated heavy to very heavy falls are likely to continue over Gujarat till July and reduce thereafter. Widespread rainfall with isolated heavy to very heavy falls are likely to continue over east Rajasthan till July 26 and reduce thereafter.

In north India, rainfall activity is likely to increase over northwest India from July 25. "Fairly widespread to widespread rainfall with isolated heavy to very heavy falls (are) likely over Uttarakhand during July 25-28; Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and West Uttar Pradesh during July 26-28, and Punjab and east Uttar Pradesh on July 27 and 28," the IMD said.

Isolated extremely heavy falls are also likely over Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand on July 27 and 28, it added.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI

LEVEL 6th, C-WING, DELHI SECRETARIAT, NEW Delhi-110002

PUBLIC NOTICE

Ban on sharp synthetic/nylon kite flying thread including popularly known "Chinese Manjha"

This is for the information of the general public that in order to prevent the adverse effects on human beings, cattle population, birds, soil and ecology and in exercise of the powers conferred by section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986) read with Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs' Notification No. SO 667 (E), dated 10th September, 1992, a Notification was issued on 10.01.2017 by order and in the name of the Hon'ble Lt. Governor of the NCT of Delhi with the following directions:-

1. There shall be complete ban on the sale, production, storage, supply, import, and use of kite flying thread made out of nylon, plastic or any other synthetic material including popularly known as "Chinese manja" and any other kite-flying thread that is sharp or made sharp such as by being laced with glass, metal or any other sharp materials in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

2. Kite flying shall be permissible only with a cotton thread, free from any sharp/ metallic/ glass components/adhesives/thread strengthening materials.

Any breach of the above directions may be reported to the office of the following:

| S. No. | Designation | Email ID | Helpline Number |
|--------|---|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | The Commissioner of Police, Delhi Police | cp.snsrivastava@delhipolice.gov.in | 100 |
| 2. | The Divisional Commissioner, GNCTD | divcom@nic.in | 1077 |
| 3. | The Chief Wildlife Warden, GNCTD | ccfgnctd@gmail.com | 1800118600 |
| 4. | The Commissioner, North Delhi Municipal Corporation | commr-northdmc@mcd.nic.in | 155304 |
| 5. | The Commissioner, South Delhi Municipal Corporation | commissioner-sdmc@mcd.nic.in | 155305 |
| 6. | The Commissioner, East Delhi Municipal Corporation | commissioneredmc@gmail.com | 155303 |

Note:-

The violation of directions issued under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, or the rules made thereunder shall be punishable under section 15 of the said Act which includes imprisonment upto five years and/or with fine which may be extended to Rs. One Lac or with both.

The above said NOTIFICATION is available at: www.environment.delhigovt.nic.in

Sd/-

Dr. K.S. Jayachandran

Special Secretary (Env.)

DIP/Shabdarth/0174/21-22

Peace in Af possible only through political solution: US

‘The US will continue to provide, humanitarian and security support to Afghan govt’

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The US administration, led by President Joe Biden, believes lasting peace in Afghanistan is possible only through a political solution, the White House has said, noting the ongoing dialogue between the Government of the war-torn country and the Taliban.

"I would note that there are ongoing political negotiations and discussions that we certainly support between Afghan leaders, members of the Afghan Government, and the Taliban," White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki told reporters at her daily news conference on Friday, amid a wave of violence from the Taliban.

"We believe a political solution is the only outcome to lasting peace in Afghanistan, but

we will continue to provide support to the Government in the form of humanitarian support, security support, training. We will also continue to encourage them to take a leading role in defending and protecting their own people," she said.

In an interview to MSNBC, Secretary of State Tony Blinken said the US is determined that Afghanistan does not become a training ground for terrorism directed against the United States or its allies and partners.

"That's exactly why we went there in the first place, which is important to remember. We were attacked on 9/11, we went to Afghanistan to get the folks — who attacked us — to bring them to justice. Osama bin Laden was brought to justice 10 years ago, and the group, al-Qaida, responsible

for those attacks has been dramatically diminished in terms of its capacity to attack anyone from Afghanistan," he said.

"We're going to make sure that we keep our eyes on that. If we see the threat re-emerging, we're going to be in a position to take action against it. But that's why we were there, and now we're 20 years and a trillion dollars and thousands of Americans lost later in that campaign. I think the reason we went there is what we have to keep the focus on, and we've largely succeeded in doing what we needed to do," Blinken said.

The United States, he said, does have deep concerns about the actions the Taliban is taking, indicating that it may be trying to take the country by force.

Senior American military

officers have admitted that the Taliban has gained "strategic momentum," with their forces now controlling about half of Afghanistan's more than 400 district centres.

Blinken said Afghanistan would become a pariah state, if the Taliban took it by force.

"It would not get the assistance that it's looking for and that the Taliban says it wants if it has any responsibility for the country. It would not get the support from the international

community that it says it wants. We're actively engaged in diplomacy because there is no military solution to this conflict that's been going on for more than 40 years in Afghanistan, and we're working to try to bring that to an end," he said.

US Central Command, which is in charge of Afghanistan, said recently that the withdrawal of US forces is more than 95 per cent complete.

Pak NSA, ISI chief likely to visit US next week for talks on Afghanistan: Report

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's National Security Adviser Moeed Yusuf and ISI chief Lt Gen Faiz Hameed are likely to visit the US next week for talks with their American counterparts on the situation in Afghanistan as part of Washington's diplomatic efforts aimed at ensuring a peaceful transfer of power in the war-torn nation, according to a media report.

The efforts also include visits by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken to New Delhi and Kabul for talks aimed at formulating a regional response to the Afghan crisis, the Dawn newspaper reported from

Washington while quoting diplomatic sources.

The trip of Yusuf and Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) Director General Lt Gen Hameed was part of these diplomatic efforts, it said.

"Pakistan has a key role in a new US diplomatic offensive aimed at ensuring a peaceful transfer of power in Afghanistan," diplomatic sources told the newspaper on Friday. Under a deal with the Taliban, the US and its NATO allies agreed to withdraw all troops in return for a commitment by the militants that they would prevent extremist groups from operating in areas they control.

Pakistan deploys regular troops along Afghan border: Report

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan has deployed regular troops at forward positions along the Afghan border due to the fluid security situation in the neighbouring war-torn country in the wake of the withdrawal of American and NATO troops, a media report said on Saturday.

Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed said that Pakistan Army soldiers have replaced the Frontier Constabulary (FC), Levies Force and other militias from the frontline positions, the Dawn newspaper reported.

The US and NATO are on the verge of completing their final troops withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Ahmed said the FC Balochistan and other militias working under the interior ministry had been called back from border patrolling. "Now regular army troops are manning the border after replacing the paramilitary forces," the minister said, adding the decision had been made in wake of the volatile situation across the border.

Ahmed said the situation not only demanded containment of the influx of refugees from Afghanistan but also the

entry of armed army personnel and militants into Pakistan.

"Paramilitary troops including the Frontier Constabulary, Levies, Rangers are deployed at the borders to deal with regular issues including illegal border crossing, smuggling etc," the minister was quoted as saying in the report.

"However, the current volatile situation (in Afghanistan) demands that regular military troops be deployed along the border," he said. Military spokesperson Major General Babar Iftikhar recently told a TV channel that troops were manning the border and the move would help prevent escalation of conflict from the Afghan soil or airspace to the Pakistani side.

Meanwhile, sources in the armed forces told the newspaper that the most serious challenge in the current scenario was not just the inflow of refugees or any infiltrators in the garb of refugees but the movement of Afghan army personnel or Taliban fighters.

"We have seen that more than 1,000 Afghan soldiers fled into Tajikistan early in July to escape clashes with the Taliban," an officer said.

"But Taliban's presence in

the northern areas of Afghanistan is not as strong as it is in the areas bordering Pakistan. Therefore, if Afghan army troops enter Pakistan while fleeing fighting, there are chances that Taliban would follow them and the conflict would spill over inside Pakistan, and it could spread to the mainland too," the officer added.

Pakistan and Afghanistan have already traded barbs last week after the Taliban took control of the Spin Boldak border crossing, and the Afghan Air Force wanted to attack Taliban positions from the Pakistani side, which was not allowed by Islamabad.

"Pakistan does not want to see any such situation when the Afghan air force might use our airspace without permission to attack Taliban and in retaliation the militants attack Pakistani positions creating a new issue," the officer said.

Meanwhile, responding to a question, the interior minister said that the fight inside Afghanistan was their internal matter and Pakistan was not taking any side and had no favourites.

"It is time that the Afghan politicians and their military leadership learn to deal with their issues," Ahmed said.

GLOBE TROTTER

BANDITS KILL 4 IRANIAN TROOPS NEAR PAK BORDER

Tehran: Armed bandits killed four members of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guard in fighting in a southern province, the official IRNA news agency reported Saturday. The report said the clash between Guard members and the bandits happened Friday night in the Gounic district of Sistan and Baluchistan province. The site of the fighting is some 1,250 kilometers (775 miles) southeast of the capital Tehran. It did not elaborate.

14 KILLED IN WAREHOUSE FIRE IN CHINA

Beijing: Fourteen people died and 26 others were injured after a fire broke out at a warehouse in northeast China's Jilin province on Saturday, local authorities said. The accident happened at a logistic warehouse in Jingyue high-tech industrial development zone at Jilin province's capital Changchun, according to officials with the zone. Fourteen people were confirmed dead in the blaze, state-run Xinhua news agency reported. Among the 26 injured, 12 were in severe condition, it said.

US AIRSTRIKE IN SOMALIA IS 2ND THIS WEEK

Washington: For the second time this week, US on Friday conducted an airstrike against the al-Shabab extremist group in Somalia. The earlier strike, on Tuesday, was the first in Somalia since President Joe Biden took office in January. In a brief statement, the Pentagon said the attack was conducted in support of Somali partner forces, and thus was allowed under existing congressional authorization for the use of military force. A Pentagon spokeswoman, Cindi King, said the airstrike was coordinated with the Somali government and took place in the Galmudug area in central



Firefighters light a backfire to stop the Dixie Fire from spreading near Prattville in Plumas County, Calif. on Friday

PTI ■ BEIJING

Chinese President Xi Jinping underlined the importance of long-term stability and prosperity in Tibet during a meeting with top military officials in Lhasa, the state media reported on Saturday, a day after he made a previously unannounced visit to the strategically important region, including to Nyingchi, a town close to the border with Arunachal Pradesh.

Xi, also General Secretary of the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC) and Chairman of the Central Military Commission, met top officials of the Tibet Military Command of the People's Liberation Army, guarding China's border with India in Arunachal



Chinese President Xi Jinping visits the Drepung Monastery located in the western suburbs of Lhasa, southwestern China's Tibet Autonomous Region on Thursday AP

Pradesh, and also called for "fully strengthening the work of training soldiers and war preparation," the Global Times reported.

Xi, 68, made his first visit

to Tibet as President from Wednesday to Friday. But his important visit was kept under wraps by China's official media till the end of the tour on Friday due to the sensitivities

of the trip. As part of his trip, he first went to Nyingchi, a strategically located town close to the border with Arunachal Pradesh. On Thursday, Xi went to Nyingchi Railway Station, learning about the overall design of the Sichuan-Tibet Railway and how the Lhasa-Nyingchi section has been operated since June 25.

It was the first time in recent years, a top Chinese leader visited the Tibetan border town. From there he went to the provincial capital Lhasa by the recently launched high-speed train.

He wound up his visit to the politically sensitive Himalayan region on Friday by meeting "representatives of troops stationed in Tibet".

"Xi met with representa-

tives of troops stationed in Tibet, calling for efforts to strengthen military training and preparedness in all aspects and make contributions to the lasting stability, prosperity and development of Tibet," the state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

However, the CPC-run tabloid Global Times said that Xi in his meeting with the PLA representatives "stressed that the local troops should fully strengthen the work of training soldiers and war preparation and contribute positive strength to promote the long-term stability and prosperity of Tibet".

Xi's first visit to Tibet took place amidst the current India-China military tensions in eastern Ladakh.

Biden stumps for McAuliffe in early test of political clout

AP ■ ARLINGTON

President Joe Biden led the kind of campaign rally that was impossible last year because of the pandemic, speaking before nearly 3,000 people in support of a fellow moderate Democrat whose race for Virginia governor could serve as a test of Biden's own strength and coattails.

Biden motorcaded across the Potomac River Friday night

to back Terry McAuliffe, a former governor looking for a second term whose centrist leanings in many ways mirror those of the president. The race is seen as an early measure of voters' judgment on Democratic control of all branches of the federal government.

The president stood before an enthusiastic and largely unmasked crowd who gathered around a park pavilion and playground on a warm July

night. He emphasized that he shared the same vision as McAuliffe about the need for greater public investments in order to drive economic growth. But Biden was also focused on the political stakes.

"You're not gonna find anyone, I mean anyone, who knows how to get more done for Virginia than Terry," Biden said. "Off-year election, the country's looking. This is a big deal."



COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTURE
A Statutory Authority of Government of India
India Habitat Centre, Core 6A, 1st Floor, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi-110003



NATA 2021

EXAMINATION NOTICE: NATA-2021

Subject:- Announcement of Third Test of NATA-2021

The Council of Architecture is pleased to announce that the Third Test of National Aptitude Test in Architecture (NATA) 2021 shall be conducted on September 3, 2021.

As per the Regulations of 2020, all candidates need to qualify an Aptitude Test conducted by the Council (i.e. NATA) for admission to B.Arch. course. Therefore, all candidates who have passed in any other aptitude test in Architecture conducted by other authorities shall also be required to qualify NATA in order to be eligible for admission to the B.Arch. course.

As per NATA 2021 Brochure, a candidate shall be allowed to appear for NATA 2021 only for a maximum of two times. Therefore, candidates who have not appeared in either one or both tests of NATA are eligible to register and appear for Third NATA Test. Further, those candidates who, after registering themselves for NATA, could not appear or remained absent in the either one or both tests of NATA due to any reason, may also register for Third NATA Test.

The NATA portal shall also be opened shortly to facilitate the students to register for Third NATA Test. The NATA-2021 Brochure with details of registration & other important dates for Third test shall be soon uploaded on the websites www.nata.in and www.coa.gov.in.

The eligible candidates desirous to take admission into 1st year of 5-year B.Arch. degree course are advised to register themselves for Third Test of NATA-2021.

July 25, 2021
New Delhi
Registrar

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

Letter No: 533
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Date: 24.07.2021

For and on behalf of UJVNL Ltd, Executive Engineer (Civil), Pashulok Barrage Rishikesh, invites sealed & separate tenders from interested contractors for following works:-

NIT No. 06/2021-22/EE(C)/Pashulok Barrage:- Operation and Maintenance of UJVNL Officer Transit Camp and office of General Manager (SHP) at Maneri Bhal-II Colony, Rishikesh.

NIT No. 07/2021-22/EE(C)/Pashulok Barrage:- Annual Civil Maintenance & Repair Works of Virbhadra Barrage Premises at Rishikesh.

NIT No. 08/2021-22/EE(C)/Pashulok Barrage :- Annual Maintenance & Repair Works of Afflux Bundha, Silt Ejector and Appurtenant Structure Virbhadra Barrage at Rishikesh.

NIT No. 09/2021-22/EE(C)/Pashulok Barrage :- Annual Upkeep Works of the Office of General Manager (CDH&NP) at New Hydrel Colony, Pashulok-Rishikesh.

Estimated Value of Tender:- Rs.9.90 Lakh, Rs. 17.94 Lakh, Rs. 24.70 Lakh & Rs. 7.19 Lakh respectively.

Date of availability of bid document on website:- 26 July, 2021 from 17:00 Hrs. (IST)

Last Date for Submission of Tender:- 17 August, 2021 upto 14:00 Hrs. (IST).

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

Executive Engineer (Civil)

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, Chintels India Limited is in the process of undertaking of development of a Group Housing Colony in Sector 109, Gurugram, over an area measuring 10.41875 acres in the revenue estate of village Babupur in accordance with the provision of Licence No.250 of 2007 dated 02-11-2007 granted by the Director General, Town & Country Planning, Haryana, Chandigarh.

And whereas, several individuals have made bookings/entered into purchase agreement for allotment of plot/property in the said colony (hereinafter referred to as allottees).

And whereas the assignment of Joint Development Rights/Marketing Rights for the said colony is now proposed to M/s Almond Infrabuild Pvt. Ltd.

And whereas the o/o Director General, Town & Country Planning, Haryana, Chandigarh has required seeking of any objections against the assignment of Joint Development Rights/Marketing Rights in the licence as a pre-condition for allowing such a proposal.

Accordingly, vide this public notice, objections are hereby invited from any of the allottees in the said colony on the proposed assignment of Joint Development Rights/Marketing Rights in the licence.

Any allottee having any objection may file his objection in the o/o Senior Town Planner, Sector 14, Gurugram, Haryana or in our corporate office within 30 days of the publication of this notice, failing which it shall be assumed that there are no objections to the proposed assignment of Joint Development Rights/Marketing Rights in the licence.

Place: Gurugram
Dated: 25.07.2021

For Chintel India Limited
Authorised Signatory

JUSTRIDE ENTERPRISES LIMITED
CIN: L74899DL1967PLC004704

Reg. Off.: Flat No.133, C4E, Pocket No.11, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058;
Email ID: justridelimited@gmail.com; **Website:** www.justrideenterprises.in; **Contact:** 8800300490

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND REMOTE E-VOTING INFORMATION
Notice is hereby given that the 54th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the members of Justride Enterprises Limited ("Company") will be held on Monday, August 16, 2021 at 10:00 AM through video conference (VC) / other audio-visual means (OAVM), to transact the businesses as set out in the Notice of AGM in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 (Act) and Rules framed thereunder and the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 (Listing Regulations) read with General Circular Nos.14/2020 (dated 8th April 2020), 17/2020 (13th April 2020), 20/2020 (dated 5th May 2020) and 22/2020 (dated June 15, 2020), respectively, issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs ("MCA Circulars") and Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/MMD1/CIRP/2020/79 dated 12th May 2020 issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI Circular"), without the physical presence of the Members at a common venue. In compliance with the said MCA Circulars read with the SEBI Circular dated 12th May, 2020, electronic copies of the Notice of AGM and Annual Report for the financial year ended on 31st March, 2020 have been sent on July 24, 2021 to all the members, whose email IDs are registered with the Company's Depository Participant(s). Please note that the requirement of sending physical copy of the Notice of the 54th AGM and Annual Report to the Members have been dispensed with vide MCA Circular/sand SEBI Circular. The Notice and the Annual Report will also be available on the website of the Company www.justrideenterprises.in, website of Central Depository Services (India) Limited ("CDSL") www.evotingindia.com and on the website(s) of the stock exchanges i.e. BSE Limited at www.bseindia.com respectively, where the Company's shares are listed. Members, who are holding shares in physical/electronic form and their e-mail addresses are not registered with the Company/having their respective Depository Participants, are requested to register their e-mail addresses at the earliest by sending scanned copy of a duly signed letter by the Member(s) mentioning their name, complete address, folio number, number of shares held with the Company along with self-attested scanned copy of the PAN Card and self-attested scanned copy of any one of the following documents viz., Aadhar Card, Driving License, Election Card, Passport, utility bill or any other Govt. document in support of the address proof of the Member as registered with the Company for receiving the Annual Report 2019-20 along with AGM Notice by email to justridelimited@gmail.com. Members holding shares in demat form can update their email address with their Depository Participants.

The notice of the AGM contains the instructions regarding the manner in which the shareholders can cast their vote through remote e-voting or by e-voting at the time of AGM and join the AGM through video conference (VC) / other audio-visual means (OAVM)

The members holding shares either in physical form or in dematerialized form, as on the cut-off date i.e. Monday, August 09, 2021, may cast their vote electronically on the Ordinary Businesses as set out in the Notice of AGM through electronic voting systems of CDSL. All the members are informed that:

- The Ordinary Businesses as set out in the Notice of AGM will be transacted through voting by electronic means;
- The remote e-voting shall commence on Friday, August 13, 2021 at 09:00 AM (IST);
- The remote e-voting shall end on Sunday, August 15, 2021 at 05:00 PM (IST);
- The cut-off date for determining the eligibility to vote by electronic means or at the AGM is Monday, August 09, 2021 and a person who is not a Member as on the cut off date should treat this Notice for information purposes only;
- Person, who acquires shares of the Company and become member of the Company after sending of the Notice of AGM and holding shares and eligible to vote, can follow the process for generating the login ID and password as provided in the Notice of the AGM. If such a person is already registered with CDSL for a-voting, existing user ID and password can be used for casting vote;
- Members may note that: a) the remote e-voting module shall be disabled by the CDSL after the aforesaid date and time for voting and once the vote on a resolution is casted by the member, the member shall not be allowed to change it subsequently; b) the members who have casted their vote by remote e-voting prior to the AGM may also attend the AGM but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again; c) the facility for voting through electronic mode shall be made available at the AGM; and d) a person whose name is recorded in the register of members or in the register of beneficial owners maintained by the depositories as on the cut-off date only shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting as well as voting at the AGM.

In case of any queries including issues and concerns related to remote e-voting and voting at AGM, you may refer the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Shareholders and e-voting user manual for Shareholders available at the download section of CDSL at www.evotingindia.com or call on toll free no.: 022-23058738 and 22-23058542-43 or send a request at helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com or contact Mr. Rakesh Dalvi, Sr. Manager, (CDSL) Central Depository Services (India) Limited, A Wing, 25th Floor, Marathon Futrex, Mafatlal Mill Compounds, N.M. Joshi Marg, Lower Parel (East), Mumbai - 400013 or send an email to helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com or call on 022-23058542/43, who will also address the grievances connected with the voting by electronic means.

By order of the Board of Directors
For Justride Enterprises Limited
Sd/-
Surya Kumar
(DIN: 0796100)

Date : July 25, 2021
Place : New Delhi

AGR dues no subject matter of any future litigation: SC

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) related dues payable by telecom majors, including Vodafone Idea and Bharti Airtel, cannot be a subject matter of any future litigation, the Supreme Court has said.

A bench headed by Justice L. Nageswara Rao stated this while dismissing the plea of telcos seeking rectification of alleged errors in the calculation of AGR.

The top court said the dispute relating to AGR has been pending in courts for a very long period of time and the dues payable by TSPs (Telecom Service Providers) cannot be the subject matter of any future litigation.

It said there is no room for any doubt from the perusal of the earlier judgement dated September 1, 2020 with respect to this court entertaining any application for altering the AGR dues of the TSPs.

The court said that issues concerning the ambit of proceedings under Section 18 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 in relation to spectrum, the manner in which payment has to be made by and liabilities apportioned between the TSPs in case of spectrum sharing and spectrum trading, "with which we are not concerned in these Applications",

were also dealt with in its judgment dated September 1, 2020

The telecom companies had pleaded before the apex court that arithmetical "errors" in the calculation be rectified and claimed there were cases of duplication of entries.

"Though these applications appear to be innocuous at first blush, the end result of the relief sought by the applicants in the guise of correction or rectification of the defects or arithmetical errors in the calculation of AGR dues, would be recalculation which would amount to the AGR dues, as specified in the order of this Court dated July 20, 2020, being altered.

The dispute relating to AGR dues had remained pending in courts for a very long period of time and bearing this in mind, this Court was at pains to emphasise, at the cost of repetition, that the AGR dues payable by TSPs cannot be the subject matter of any future litigation," the bench also comprising justices S A Nazeer and M R Shah said.

The apex court said the order dated July 20, 2020 makes it clear that there is no scope for any recalculation/re-computation of AGR dues.

"Even at the time of passing of the order dated July 20, 2020, an attempt was made to

seek recalculation and reassessment, as recorded in the order, which was rejected by this Court outright," the bench said.

The top court in September last year had given a time period of 10 years to telecom service providers struggling to pay Rs 93,520 crores of AGR-related dues to clear their outstanding amount to the government.

During the hearing on the applications on July 19, the bench had referred to an earlier order passed by the apex court in the matter and observed that it said no reassessment of AGR-related dues can be done.

One of the lawyers representing a telecom firm had contended that they were not blaming the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) for it as there are arithmetical entries and they want to place the entries before the department so that they can reconsider it.

In its September last year order, the apex court had said that telecom operators shall make the payment of 10 per cent of the total dues as demanded by the DoT by March 31, 2021 and the rest amount to be paid in yearly installments commencing from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2031.

India in exciting phase of growth: Paytm CEO

EXPECTED TO BECOME USD 5 TRN ECONOMY IN 5-10 YEARS

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The country is in an exciting phase of growth and the economy is expected to add USD 2.5 trillion in the next 5-10 years, Paytm founder and CEO Vijay Shekhar Sharma said on Saturday.

"If this country's economy is USD 2.5 trillion today. In next 5-10 years, you will see another USD 2.5 trillion. It took 70 years for us to make it USD 2.5 trillion... Now only in 10 years all that history will be recreated and doubled.

"It's an amazing, inspiring moment for us to be in India and lucky to be in India," Sharma said while speaking at a 2-day virtual youth conclave organised by IMC Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

He said one should never hesitate to do what they feel very strongly about even if it seems small.

"When somebody makes you feel that you're solo. That's just the way you handle the



adversity.

And once you are a success, all these adversities will become the folklores, so you should never feel bad about it," he added.

Meanwhile, Arin Capital Chairman Mohandas Pai in another session of the conclave said, new business models can come up as the wide distribution network is no longer the limiting factor for businesses.

"So your business models can come up, you can start a business and produce something in India and sell to the whole world cheaply," he added.

He said through technology the disadvantage and advantage of starting a business in any country no longer exist.

India will continue to attract high foreign investments: Goyal

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Saturday expressed confidence that India will continue to attract high foreign direct investment (FDIs) in the current financial year.

He said India has received highest ever FDI in the Covid-impacted 2020, in contrast with a shrinkage in investment inflows globally.

In 2020-21, FDI into the country grew by 19 per cent to USD 59.63 billion. Total FDI, including equity, re-invested earnings and capital, rose 10 per cent to USD 81.72 billion during 2020-21 as against USD 74.39 billion in 2019-20.

"This year, we are very confident that we will continue this streak of seven continuous years of historic highs in our foreign investments," Goyal said at the CII-Horasis India Meeting webinar.

Similarly, he said, India's exports too are recording healthy growth and would reach USD 400 billion by the end of the current financial year.

During July 1-21, export crossed USD 22 billion and it is "poised to cross USD 32-33 billion by end of the month (July), which means our run rate is on track to achieve USD 400 billion of exports target for the first time ever".

Further, he said that cur-



rently India is in talks with 16 countries including the UK, the EU, Australia, Canada, and the UAE for trade agreements.

With some countries, India is working for early harvest agreements which will allow the country to quickly identify areas of mutual interest and progress negotiations faster towards a comprehensive economic partnership agreement, or FTAs, the minister said. "We have focused our efforts on a few very promising agreements where I can clearly see huge comparative advantages for India to get market access and the ability to trade both in goods and services in a much bigger way. The UK, EU, Australia, Canada, UAE are countries with whom we can very quickly expand our discussions and engagements," he added.

India has inked FTAs with several countries, including Japan, South Korea, Singapore, and ASEAN members.

Under such agreements, two trading partners significantly reduce or eliminate import/customs duties on the maximum number of goods traded between them.

Talking about vaccination, he said the government had permitted the private sector to procure 25 per cent of Covid-19 vaccines but

they are not buying.

"CII should take a lead and get all of you to ensure that you take that 25 per cent vaccines... Some industry group said we will do one crore vaccinations... Nobody has gone to Bihar, North East, Jharkhand to run campaigns to remove vaccine hesitancy," he said.

Open air travel for inoculated passengers: IATA

IANs ■ NEW DELHI

International air travel should be opened up for at least fully vaccinated air passengers, global airlines' association IATA told IANS. As per the association, a comprehensive system should be set in place that allows hassle free travel for those inoculated. Moreover, the system should also ensure testing and verification of those passengers who have not been inoculated but without increasing the already set restrictions. "Vaccination and testing have a role to play in the recovery of international trav-

el. It is not an option to wait for vaccines to be widely available before reopening borders. The global vaccine roll-out is likely to take time," said Conrad Clifford, IATA's Deputy Director General and Regional Vice President for Asia Pacific. "That's why testing is the alternative for those who do not have access to vaccines or are unable to be vaccinated for various reasons."

According to Clifford, it is not sustainable to maintain a zero case load approach, especially with scientists believing that Covid-19 will end up becoming endemic.

Honest taxpayers deserve to be recognised for paying due share of taxes: Sitharaman

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday said honest taxpayers deserve to be recognised for dutifully paying their due share of taxes and appreciated the Income Tax Department for successful implementation of various reforms.

In her message to the I-T Department on the 161st anniversary of Income Tax Day, she complimented the department for continuing to work towards simplifying its procedures and processes, and making its functioning hassle-free, fair and transparent.

"The minister observed that the honest taxpayers deserve to be recognized for the contribution they are making to the progress of the nation by dutifully paying their due share of taxes... She also lauded tax-

payers for discharging their compliance obligations despite the difficulties caused by the pandemic," an official statement said.

Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary observed that most of the processes and compliance requirements have been shifted to online platforms and the need for taxpayers to physically visit tax offices has been eliminated or minimized.

He highlighted the fact that the interaction with taxpayers is now characterized by a spirit of trust and respect, relying more on voluntary compliance.

Revenue Secretary Tarun Bajaj also complimented the department for having done well in adapting itself to the emergent changes in the economy and having been able to achieve a healthy growth in tax

collections.

He also appreciated the initiatives undertaken by the department to reorient its approach towards revenue collection, making its functioning trust-based and taxpayer-centric.

Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) Chairman J B Mohapatra lauded the tax officers for their collective efforts and effectively fulfilling their twin role as the revenue earning arm of the nation and provider of taxpayer services.

Referring to the larger and far-reaching policy measures like 'Honouring the Honest', Faceless Regime and adoption of the Taxpayers' Charter, he noted that these initiatives have made the departmental functioning more transparent, objective and taxpayer-friendly.

7-day relief: No revision in fuel prices in a week

IANs ■ NEW DELHI

Oil marketing companies (OMC) continued to pause fuel price revision for seven consecutive days, the longest period in weeks, as the global development on oil production and rising US inventories softened crude and product rates.

However, they stopped short of reducing the retail price of petrol and diesel as more time will be required to study oil price movement before any downward revision.

Already, crude has firmed a bit for last few days and this could prevent price cut by the OMCs.

With no change in prices on Saturday, in the national capital petrol continues to be sold for Rs 101.84 per litre, while diesel remains at the unchanged price of Rs 89.87 a litre.

The pump price of fuel has been static since Sunday. It last increased on July 17 with petrol being revised upwards by 30 paise per litre, while diesel prices remained unchanged. One of the main reasons for pause in fuel price rise is an over 10 per cent fall seen in global oil prices with benchmark crude sliding to \$69 a barrel from a high of over \$77 barrel just a few weeks ago. It had again risen to over \$74 a barrel on strong demand projections.

SBI opens branch in President's Estate

New Delhi: The country's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) on Saturday opened a branch at President's Estate. The branch was inaugurated by President Ram Nath Kovind along with First Lady Savita Kovind, in the presence of Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, SBI said in a statement. The branch will provide all types of banking services including safe deposit lockers to the residents of President's Estate, it said. Secretary to the President K D Tripathi, SBI Chairman Dinesh Khara and other senior officials of the bank were also present at the inauguration ceremony, it said. This branch at President's Estate is a jewel in the crown for SBI and will offer a convenient and seamless banking experience to all the customers, said Khara. **PTI**

BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - II, DELHI.
4th Floor Jeevan Tara Building Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110001.
OA NO 286/2020
DATE: : 01.07.2021
AXIS BANK LTD.
...APPLICANT
VERSUS
SANJEEV ARORA & ORS.
...RESPONDENT
TO,
DEFENDANT
1 Rajeev Arora, House No. J-13 Govindpuram Block J, PS Kavi Nagar, Ghaziabad-201002
2. Three Platinum Softex Pvt. Ltd. A-169 2nd Floor, Mandawali Fazalpur Ganga Ram New Delhi-52. Also at: C-5640, Sector-62, Near Fortis Hospital Noida UP-201301
Whereas the above named applicant(s) has / have instituted a case for recovery of Rs 97,84,026/- (RUPEE Ninety Seven Lakh Eighty Four Thousand and Twenty Six ONLY) against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on **10.08.2021 At 10.30 A.M**
Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence.
By Order of the Tribunal
For Registrar
DRT-II, Delhi

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE FOR MISCELLANEOUS WORKS
Srl. No. (1) E-Tender No. DRM-ENG-G-BSP-T-51-21-22, Date. 19/07/2021.
Work: Upgradation of Platform Surface of Shahdol and Anuppur stations. Provision of toilet with water supply in CSM/SM's Panel room at Vilayatkhala, Lorha and Mudaria & Creation of siding facilities for working of heavy duty Rial Grinding Machine (RGM) at Burhar, Nowrozabad, Umaria & Rupond stations under the jurisdictions of Sr. DEN/North, Bilaspur. **Tender Value (In Rs.): 1,78,95,635.56/- EMD (In Rs.): 00.00/- Completion Period: 12 Months.**
Start date of Submission of Tender: From 11:00 hrs. on 02.08.2021. Last date of Submission of Tender: Upto 11:00 hrs. on 16.08.2021
The complete information of above e-Tender Notices is available over websites **https://www.iirps.gov.in** Bids other than e-bids shall not be accepted against above Tenders.
Div. Railway Manager (Engg.)
CPR/10/106 S.E.C. Railway/BSP
f South East Central Railway @SecRail

SEARCH FOR MISSING PERSON

TOTA RAM
General public is here by informed that this person namely Tota Ram S/o Kale Ram R/o H.No. B-391, Gali No. 8, S.B.S. Colony, Karawal Nagar, Delhi **Age : About 95 years, Height : 5'5", Face : Round, Build : Thin, Complexion :** Shallow, wearing blue colour shirt, white colour lower and slipper in feet, has been missing since 09.07.2021 from his house. In this regard DD No. 78-A dated 10.07.2021 has been lodged at P.S. Karawal Nagar, Delhi.
Any person having any information or clue about this missing person may kindly inform to the following:-
E-mail: ctc@cbi.gov.in SHO - P.S. Karawal Nagar, Delhi
Website: http://cbi.nic.in Tel. No. : 011-9205832616,
Fax: 24368639, 8750870728
Tel.: 24368638/24368641

| INDO COTSPIN LIMITED | | | | |
|---|----------------|---|---|------------|
| REGD. OFFICE : 78 K.M. MILE STONE, G.T. ROAD, NH-1, VILLAGE JATTI PUR, POST BOX NO. 3, POST OFFICE SAMALKHA, PANIPAT -132103 CIN:- L1111HR1995PLC02541 Website: www.indocotspin.com Email ID: raipalaggarwal12000@yahoo.com Statement of Standalone Un-audited Financial Results for the Quarter Ended June 30, 2021 | | | | |
| PARTICULARS | 3 MONTHS ENDED | YEAR TO DATE FIGURES FOR CURRENT PERIOD ENDED | CORRESPONDING 3 MONTHS ENDED IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR | |
| | 30/06/2021 | 31/03/2021 | 30/06/2020 | Un-audited |
| Total Income from operations (net) | 150.54 | 816.08 | 123.84 | |
| Net Profit/(Loss) from Ordinary activities after Tax | 0.18 | 4.77 | 0.37 | |
| Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Extraordinary Items) | 0.18 | 4.77 | 0.37 | |
| 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) | 0.00 | 0.07 | 0.00 | |
| Earnings Per Share (after Extraordinary Items) (of Rs. 10/- each): Basic and Diluted (in Rupees) | 0.00 | 0.07 | 0.00 | |
| NOTE: i) There is no qualification on the un-audit report for the quarter ended 30/06/2021 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 , www.nseindia.com , www.cseindia.com , www.bseindia.com , www.nseindia.com , www.cseindia.com For Indo Cotspin Limited Sd/- Bal Krishan Aggarwal Managing Director DIN : 00456219 | | | | |

| WESTERN RAILWAY | | | |
|---|---|------------|------------|
| E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE NO. S/28/2021 Date : 21.07.2021 | | | |
| S.N. | Short Description of item | Quantity | T.O.D |
| 771 | Wood Based Resin | 1000 Nos. | 09.08.2021 |
| 772 | Gear Case Complete | 4 Nos. | 09.08.2021 |
| 773 | Washer for Dia 41 mm Pin | 10000 Nos. | 09.08.2021 |
| 774 | Gangway Bridge Mounting Assly. | 640 Nos. | 09.08.2021 |
| 775 | Set of Connection Strap Assly. for WAP4. | 306 Set | 09.08.2021 |
| 776 | Roller Bearing | 314 Nos. | 10.08.2021 |
| 777 | Filter Assly. | 18 Nos. | 11.08.2021 |
| 778 | Plug Assly | 1315 Set | 11.08.2021 |
| 779 | Track Feed Battery Charger | 819 Nos. | 12.08.2021 |
| 780 | Tar Plastic Compound | 6734 Kg | 13.08.2021 |
| 781 | VRLA Valve Regulated (Sealed) Lead Acid Battery 2V300AH | 3028 Nos. | 13.08.2021 |
| 782 | Set of 35 mm NABO Brake Pads | 2000 Nos. | 13.08.2021 |
| 783 | LMLA, Low Maintenance Lead Acid Secondary cells, 2V, 300AH. | 3028 Nos. | 16.08.2021 |
| 784 | Set of Switches 6 A-250 V | 16 Set | 16.08.2021 |
| 785 | R/M Paint Gentian Blue. | 38620 Ltr. | 18.08.2021 |
| 786 | Single Bottle Vacuum Circuit Breaker. | 150 Nos. | 18.08.2021 |
| 787 | VRLA Batteries of 48V-200AH | 110 Set | 19.08.2021 |
| 788 | AOH Kit for Tapchanger | 98 Set | 19.08.2021 |
| 789 | Gear Oil Optigear RMO | 5063 Ltr. | 19.08.2021 |
| 790 | LMLA Secondary Cells 2V/200AH | 1647 Nos. | 25.08.2021 |
| 791 | Main LED Signal Lighting Unit Red, Yellow, Green | 5323 Nos. | 26.08.2021 |
| 792 | Wire 7 Strand Steel, Galvanised for Signalling Purpose | 4594 Kg | 30.08.2021 |
| Regarding detailed notice EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website www.iirps.gov.in , and www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in . | | | |
| For Principal Chief Materials Manager | | | |
| 0285 | | | |
| Like us on : facebook.com/WesternRly Follow us on : twitter.com/WesternRly | | | |

“Decided in Rio Olympics itself that I will prove myself in Tokyo”

MIRABAI LIFTS WEIGHT OF A NATION

An Olympic medal finally around her neck, star Indian weightlifter Mirabai Chanu on Saturday said she can finally take a break at home without worrying about training after managing just five trips to her place in Manipur in the last five years.

“I have just been home for five days in the past five years. Now I will go with this medal,” said Chanu, whose family is based in Nongpok Kakching village about 20 kilometres from Imphal.

“I will now go home and eat food made by my mother,” she added.

Chanu revealed that after the Rio Games debacle she changed her training and technique completely so that she could redeem herself in Tokyo. Competing in her second Olympics, Chanu claimed the Silver medal in the 49kg category with a total of 202kg (87kg+115kg). It was India's second Olympic medal in the sport after Karnam Malleswari's Bronze that came 21 years ago



Mirabai Chanu Saikhom competes in the women's 49kg weightlifting event at the 2020 Olympics on Saturday

PTI

at the Sydney Games.

“My dream of winning an Olympic medal has been fulfilled today. I tried a lot in Rio, put in a lot of effort but it was not my day then. I thought that day only that I will prove myself in Tokyo,” Chanu said during a virtual press conference.

Considered a strong medal contender five years ago in Rio as well, Chanu buckled under pressure in the women's 48kg event and failed to log a legitimate lift.

“I learnt a lot from that day — my training and technique was changed, we put in a lot of effort after that.”

“I was very sad after Rio, there was a lot of pressure on me and I got nervous, I couldn't understand anything for days but then coach sir and the federation counselled me, told

me that I have a lot of potential,” she added.

Head coach Vijay Sharma revealed he was also under a lot of pressure after the disappointing outing in Rio.

“There was a lot of pressure on me after the Rio failure, we failed in a very important competition and we were expected to win then also,” Sharma said.

Determined to prove herself in the Tokyo Games, Chanu and Sharma changed the Manipuri's training, employing a more stringent regimen.

“After that we changed the training pattern and technique a lot. The result of which we saw in the 2017 in world championship, then we took the Gold in the 2018 Commonwealth Games. We won a medal in the 2019 world championship. We have been

growing and improving regularly.”

“The lesson we learnt was that we need a lot of determination and discipline. I worked with that and Mira partnered me.

“She hasn't done anything but eat, sleep and train in the last five years. It took us 2.5 years instead of 1.5 for the Olympic qualification because of coronavirus. Overall the result of the journey is that we are sitting here today with the medal.”

The Manipuri's sole focus for the past five years was on winning a medal at the Olympics and that required several sacrifices including staying away from her family.

The efforts paid off as Chanu went on to win the world championship in 2017 following it with a Gold at the

“Could not have asked for a happier start to @Tokyo2020! India is elated by @mirabai_chanu's stupendous performance. Congratulations to her for winning the Silver medal in weightlifting. Her success motivates every Indian. #Cheer4India #Tokyo2020.”

—PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI

“Many many Congratulations to @mirabai_chanu on winning India's first medal at #Tokyo2020. Such An inspiring performance that will be remembered for a long time to come and will inspire generations. Well done.”

— ABHINAV BINDRA

“Congratulations for a beautiful opening on medal tally @mirabai_chanu. This Second place medal is a morale boost for our Indian contingent. Thank you for a spectacular performance..... jai hind.”

— BAJRANG PUNIA

2018 Commonwealth Games. At the 2019 Asian championship she picked up a Bronze in clean and jerk where medals are awarded separately for snatch, clean and jerk, and total lift.

Ahead of the Tokyo Games, the Khel Ratna awardee had created a world record in clean and jerk at the 2020 Asian championship earlier this year.

Chanu hoped her exploits in the international arena and the Olympics win can inspire more girls to take up the sport specially weightlifting.

“There will be change, there are few girls in weightlifting right now but I hope many will be inspired by me and will feel they can also achieve something in the sport.”

Mirabai's mother in tears as daughter sports 'good luck' earrings she gifted

New Delhi: A historic Silver medal and a radiant smile were not the only eye-catching things about Mirabai Chanu on Saturday in Tokyo, her gold earrings shaped like Olympic rings were as striking, a gift from her mother who sold her own jewellery for them five years ago.

The hope was that the earrings would bring her “good luck”. It didn't happen in the Rio 2016 Games but Chanu made the little sacrifice count in Tokyo on Saturday morning with a Silver medal and Saikhom Ongbi Tombi Leima has struggled to stop her tears from flowing ever since.

“I saw the earrings on TV, I gave them to her in 2016 before the (Rio) Olympics. I have made it for her from the gold pieces and savings I have so that it brings luck and success,” Leima said from her home in Manipur where a considerable number of relatives, friends and well-wishers gathered to watch Chanu script history in Tokyo.

“I was in tears seeing it and also during the moment she won the medal. Her father (Saikhom Kriti Meitei) was also in tears. Tears of joy. All her hard work has led to the success.”

The Chanu household at Nongpok Kakching village, around 25km from state capital Imphal, visitors had been trickling in since Friday despite the curfew caused in part by the Covid-19 pandemic.

“She had told us she will win Gold or at least a medal. So, everybody was waiting for it to happen. Many of our relatives who lived far came last evening. They stayed overnight with us,” Chanu's mother said.



Family members and neighbours of Mirabai Chanu gather together to watch her lift

@Media_SAI

“Many came this morning and the people of the locality also thronged. So, we have brought out the television to the verandah and around 50 people were there to watch Mirabai in Tokyo. Many sat at the front courtyard. So, it was a kind of festival.

The Gold they had wished for didn't come but the Silver was enough to send a packed courtyard, glued to the TV, into frenzy as the tense little crowd broke into celebrations, unclenching their fists and clapping frantically.

Chanu was on video call with her family from the weightlifting arena in Tokyo before her event began and she had sought blessings from her parents.

“She (Chanu) rarely comes home (because of training) and so we have



made a Whatsapp group to communicate with each other,” said Chanu's cousin Aroshini.

“This morning, she had a video call with all of us and she bowed down and sought blessings from her parents.

“She said ‘bless me to win a Gold medal for the country’. They gave their blessings. It was a touching moment.”

Manika, Mukherjee off to promising start

Tokyo: India's slim hopes for a table tennis medal in mixed doubles vanished in no time but Manika Batra and Suthirha Mukherjee made promising starts to their women's singles campaign on Saturday.

The start to India's table tennis campaign was disappointing with Sharath Kamal and Manika losing 0-4 to the third seeds Lin Yu-jun and Cheng I-Ching of Chinese Taipei in the mixed doubles round of 16.

However, world number 62 Manika returned to beat 94th-ranked Tin-Tin Ho of Britain 4-0 in her singles opener while 98th-ranked Suthirha made a strong impression on

her Olympics debut with a come from behind 4-3 win against 78th-ranked Linda Bergstrom of Sweden.

Mukherjee play Portugal's Fu Yu in the second round while Manika takes on Ukraine's Margaryta Pesotska.

Mukherjee showed remarkable grit to down her Swedish opponent after trailing 1-3 in the best of seven affair. She won 5-11, 11-9, 11-13, 9-11, 11-3, 11-9, 11-5.

Earlier in the mixed doubles, Sharath and Manika had to make all chances count against a superior opponent from Chinese Taipei but they couldn't do so after leading 5-1 and 5-3 in the first two games. In the end, it was a comfortable 11-8, 11-6, 11-5, 11-4 win for Lin and Cheng.

Manpreet & Co start with win, women's lose

Tokyo: Harmanpreet Singh scored a brace and veteran goalkeeper P R Sreejesh stood like a wall in the closing minutes as the Indian men's hockey team overcame a late surge from New Zealand to eke out a close 3-2 win in its opening Olympic Games match on Saturday.

Aside from Harmanpreet (26th and 33rd minutes), Rupinder Pal Singh (10th) was the other goal-getter for the eight-time former champions, currently ranked fourth in the world, in the Pool A match at the Oi hockey stadium.

For the eighth-ranked New Zealand, Kane Russell scored from a penalty corner in the sixth minute before Stephen Jenness (43rd minute) reduced the margin of defeat later in the match.

India will next play mighty Australia on Sunday. The Kookaburras beat hosts Japan 5-3 in another Pool A tie.

India's chief coach Graham Reid was happy to start the campaign on a winning note but said there are many areas to improve ahead of Sunday's tough match.



Harmanpreet Singh celebrates with his Indian teammates after he scores a goal against New Zealand during Pool A match

@TheHockeyIndia

“Winning three points in a competition like the Olympic Games is really important. I think we had a good second and third quarter but the first and fourth we struggled a little bit,” he said.

“When we watch the video later today, we will be able to find out what we need to get better at and surely there are going to be things we learn from today

too,” he added.

INDIA WOMEN LOSE 1-5

The Indian women's hockey team fought valiantly in the first two quarters before losing the team to go down 1-5 against world No 1 Netherlands in their opening pool match.

Felice Albers gave Netherlands the lead in the sixth minute before the advance

ment was evened out by India skipper Rani Rampal in the 10th minute.

The Indians defended bravely in the first two quarters to go into the half time locked at 1-1 but the break seemed to have broken their momentum as the Dutch came out all guns blazing after the change of ends and pumped in three goals to nip any chance of an upset in the bud.

Margot van Geffen (33rd minute) restored Netherlands' lead soon after resumption before the three-time Olympic champions and reigning Silver medallist scored two goals in quick succession through Albers (43rd) and Frederique Matla (45th) to take control of the proceedings.

If that was not enough, there was more agony in store for the Indians as Caia Jacqueline van Maasakker slammed home from their sixth penalty corner in the 52nd minute.

India will play Germany in their next Pool A match on July 26.



Nagal creates history with singles win

Tokyo: Sumit Nagal on Saturday became only the third Indian tennis player to win a men's singles match at the Olympic Games and the first in 25 years, when he edged past Denis Istomin 6-4, 6-7(6), 6-4 in two hours and 34 minutes on court 10 at the Ariake Tennis Centre.

Zeeshan Ali was the first Indian to win a singles match at the 1988 Seoul Games when he beat Victor Caballero from Paraguay.

After that, the legendary Leander Paes won the historic men's singles Bronze at the 1996 Atlanta Games, beating Brazil's

Fernando Meligeni.

No Indian could win a singles match after Paes' heroic feat.

“To lose second set from 5-3 and then comeback in the third set in a weather like this, is not easy. Playing for my country gave me the push,” said Nagal after the match.

Nagal now faces a Herculean task as he takes on Australian Open runner-up Medvedev.

“I am very excited for this match to play the world number two on a big court. That's why we play tennis for, to live for these moments. I am looking forward to it,” he said.

Chirag-Satwik stun World No 3

Praneeth suffers defeat; Sindhu in action today

Tokyo: The Indian men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty shocked the world No 3 pair of Yang Lee and Chi-Lin Wang of Chinese Taipei in a thrilling group A match of the badminton competition where the country experienced disappointment in the singles' event on Saturday.

Chirag and Satwik, the current world No 10, notched up a stunning 21-16, 16-21, 27-25 win over third seeds Lee and Wang, who had claimed back-to-back titles at the Yonex Thailand Open, Toyota Thailand Open and BWF World Tour Finals in Thailand earlier this year.

However, 13th seeded B Sai Praneeth suffered a demoralising 17-21, 15-21 loss to world number 47 Misha Zilberman of Israel in a 41-minute men's singles group D match.



India's Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty compete against Taiwan's Lee Yang and Wang Chi Lin during their men's doubles group stage match

PTI

Satwik and Chirag, who have been working under Danish coach Mathias Boe for the last few months, dished out a tactical superior game and held their nerves in the final moments to emerge victorious during the one hour and nine minute contest, which turned out to be an edge-of-the-seat thriller.

The Indians had five

match points but the Chinese Taipei pair, the 2018 World championship Bronze-medallists, saved all of them before grabbing one themselves but Chirag and Satwik were up to the task and had the last laugh.

Satwik and Chirag will next play Indonesian world No 1s Marcus Fernaldi Gideon and Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo on Sunday.

Injured Vikas out



Vikas Krishan stands in his corner during his men's 69-kg boxing match

AP

Tokyo: Indian boxer Vikas Krishan (69kg) was out-punched 0-5 and left with a bloodied eye by local favourite Sewonrets Quincy Mensah Okazawa as he bowed out of Olympics on Saturday after fighting with a shoulder injury in the opening round.

The 29-year-old Vikas sustained a cut below his left eye in the high-voltage clash.

“During the last sparring session in Italy (before the team left for Tokyo), he injured his shoulder. He got treatment and we had hoped that he would be

fine, he started without problem,” India's High Performance Director Santiago Nieva said.

“But when he attempted a jab at Okazawa's body, he hurt the shoulder again and could not use his left hand properly. He fought with one hand today,” the Swede added.

Vikas was the only Indian boxer in action on the day.

On Sunday, six-time world champion M C Mary Kom (51kg) and Commonwealth Games Silver-medallist Manish Kaushik will compete in their opening bouts.



Indian shooters fail to fire

Tokyo: Indian shooters endured multiple heartbreaks on the first day of their competition in the Tokyo Olympics on Saturday, with the biggest disappointment being Saurabh Chaudhary's failure to win a medal after topping the qualifications.

Chaudhary could not replicate the form he displayed in the qualifications to finish seventh in the men's 10m air pistol final. His roommate and friend Abhishek Verma could not make the eight-man finals, settling for the 17th place with 575 in the event that was considered one of India's best bets for a

podium finish.

In the women's 10m air rifle event, first-timer Elavenil Valarivan and Apurvi Chandela, too, failed to qualify for the finals, finishing 16th and 36th respectively, at the Akasa Range.

Following his sensational entry into the finals, a lot of hope were pinned on Chaudhary after a dismal show by the women. But the script did not pan out the way the country's shooting team would have wanted it to.

The Indian ace shot 137.4 to be eliminated in the seventh place. Things were different in the qualifications though, with

Chaudhar shooting 586 to finish ahead of a world-class field, thanks to a perfect 100 in the fourth series after back-to-back 98.

Verma was also in contention to make the cut after staging an excellent rally, but two 8s in the final series dashed his hopes.

Earlier in the day, world number one Elavenil finished 16th in the qualifications after shooting 626.5 over six series of 10 shots each, while the more experienced Apurvi, who is also the finals world record holder in the event, settled for the 36th place after aggregating 621.9.



Support system for rural India
If more private companies perceive rural development as a market investment, we will be able to better support our rural regions

2



4

Watch your thoughts
Every individual is born with a stockpile of thought seeds in mind, coming as it may as Karmic carryover from the past

For marriage to be a success, every woman and every man should have her and his own bathroom. The end
— Catherine Zeta-Jones



Identifying a passive aggressive partner could be the first step towards curbing the hostility growing between you and your partner, writes NIDHI UPADHYAY

HOW FINE IS 'I AM FINE'?

We all use 'I am fine' as the most powerful means to avoid any potentially costly confrontations, be it with a spouse, with your colleague at work agrees with your constructive feedback in the meeting to avoid confrontation and later forgets to copy you in an important email? What if your usually punctual spouse doesn't show up on time for a dinner date simply because he or she disagreed with your choice of restaurant? And what if you have noticed a pattern in this behaviour but every time you try to bring it up with your spouse you are dismissed for reading too much between the lines?

While developing the characters for *That Night*, I accidentally stumbled upon an interesting article about passive aggression in a marriage and how sometimes what might appear like a difference of opinion on the surface could be a classical setup for passive aggressive relationship. Although the partner exhibiting such behaviour in a relationship might not be a full-fledged, card carrying passive aggressive personality, but he or she could be a member of the club, subtly abusing the partner emotionally and sometimes physically too.

According to WebMD: Passive-aggressive behaviour is when you express negative feelings indirectly instead of openly talking about them. During World War II, when soldiers wouldn't follow officers' orders, experts described them as "passive-aggressive." Someone who uses passive aggression may feel angry, resentful, or frustrated, but they act neutral, pleasant, or even cheerful. They then find indirect ways to show how they really feel.

We all might show a streak of passive aggression at times, however, when this repetitive sulking, backhanded compliment, withdrawal, or manipulation becomes a way of life, it can result into grave consequences in a relationship, especially in a marriage. Identifying a passive aggressive partner could be the first step towards curbing the hostility growing between you and your partner.

While each passive-aggressive spouse might operate differently, but they all have one thing in common: they avoid confrontation, and often these individuals appear and behave outwardly supportive or content, which makes it all the more difficult to spot them. However, identifying a behavioural pattern can serve as a key differentiator between a momentary angry acceptance and a passive aggression in a relationship.

RECOGNISING PASSIVE AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOUR

Below are some red flags that can help you identify a harmless sulking from a hostile one.

- **Disguised Verbal Hostility:** 'I'm Just Saying' a sentence that sounds so harmless can be your partner's coping mechanism developed over the years to express his or her angry feelings without being affirmative about it.

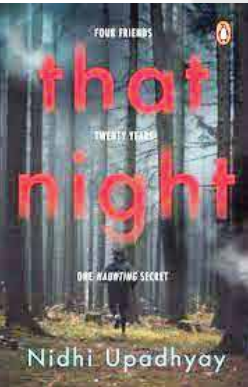
- **Disguised Hostile Humour:** 'Can't You Take a Joke?' The backhanded compliment or sarcasm could be another powerful weapon often used by a passive aggressive partner, especially in the instances when they are confronted about their demeaning act. Playing a victim card 'that it was meant to be a joke' is their knee-jerk reaction to avoid any uncomfortable conversations.
- **Guilt-Baiting:** 'You were taking so long to finish that call with your mom that I started the match instead.' Aggressive passive spouses are an expert at wielding guilt as a weapon to show their disagreement or hostility. They inadvertently or skillfully manipulate and coerce you into an agreement by attacking your vulnerable spots.
- **Disguised Psychological Manipulation:** 'I think you need to go for a yoga class to manage your stress.' Passive aggressive spouse usually have a tendency to change your perception by spinning the whole blame on you for being the inconsiderate or the short tempered one.
- **Stonewalling:** Avoiding responsibility, duty, and obligations and withdrawing from a relationship is another trick up the sleeves of these individuals. It's their way of maintaining power and control by imposing many hurdles for you to jump through.

While the phrases such as 'I am just saying,' 'It was a joke' and the silent treatment are invariably part of every marriage, it should not be a breeding ground for hostility that leaves the receiving partner shattered and confused about her or his own worth in a relationship.

Unfortunately, often these tricky psychological manoeuvres take absolutely no planning on your passive-aggressive partner's part. On the contrary, they are acting on pure instincts. Hence identifying the cause for such behaviour could work as a powerful tool to stop such manoeuvres in the track.

POSSIBLE CAUSES FOR PASSIVE-AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOUR

- **Upbringing:** Voicing your strong opinion was(is) often categorised as disrespectful in most Indian households. However, a constant suppression of opinion during the formative years can impact adversely, pushing an individual to find ways to passively channel their anger or frustration.
- **Sense of powerlessness:** A manipulation in a marriage can often be a side-effect of tussle of power between the partners, especially when one partner feels out of control in a situation or area where his or her spouse is enjoying success. This sense of insecurity can fuel underhanded tactics to sabotage the partner's success and emotional wellbeing, sometimes without even realising it. This power hunger can also manifest into establishing their territories by subtle emotional and physical abuse.



“WHILE EACH PASSIVE-AGGRESSIVE SPOUSE MIGHT OPERATE DIFFERENTLY, BUT THEY ALL HAVE ONE THING IN COMMON: THEY AVOID CONFRONTATION, AND OFTEN THESE INDIVIDUALS APPEAR AND BEHAVE OUTWARDLY SUPPORTIVE OR CONTENT, WHICH MAKES IT ALL THE MORE DIFFICULT TO SPOT THEM. HOWEVER, IDENTIFYING A BEHAVIOURAL PATTERN CAN SERVE AS A KEY DIFFERENTIATOR BETWEEN A MOMENTARY ANGRY ACCEPTANCE AND A PASSIVE AGGRESSION IN A RELATIONSHIP”

- **Inability to accept their own emotion:** Passive aggression is a personality disorder, and these individuals cannot approach situations, feelings, relationships or communication directly. They are often unaware of what they are doing, and when confronted, they refuse to acknowledge both the behaviour and the results.
- **Low self-esteem:** The passive-aggressive partner often feels that he or she is the one at the receiving end, inadvertently playing the victim card. These individuals often operate out of a deep sense of insecurity, and they persistently feed their negative emotions to justify their actions, sometimes to the extent of demeaning the partner in an attempt to elevate themselves.
- **Buried feelings of inadequacy and injustice:** Often words like 'it's-unfair' can be passive aggressive person's way of communicating that the spouse has some kind of unfair advantage over them in a relationship. It could be in career, relationships at work and family, or kids.

HOW TO COPE WITH PASSIVE-AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOUR

Once you have identified a classical pattern of passive aggression in your spouse, the most critical step is to protect your and your partner's emotional wellbeing. The following few steps can act as a crucial steppingstone in bringing your relationship back to a healthy track.

- **Accepting the situation:** It's painful to accept that your spouse is operating within a passive-aggressive pattern, especially, because these individuals have a tendency to manipulate your emotions by displaying sacrifices made by them in a relationship. They usually go an extra length to prove that their love for their spouse is unmatched. But if you notice a concrete pattern in the sugar-coated humiliation or purposeful withdrawal to punish you, it's time to trust your instincts and accept the reality.
- **Identify the trigger:** There is no excuse for aggression and abuse of any form in a marriage. However, knowing the reason for this aggression can help you predict the behaviour pattern of your spouse. Also, sometimes the issue can be as trivial as your spouse fearing to hurt your feelings and thus, he or she inadvertently finds an underhanded way to express his or her dislike. Understanding the triggers can minimize the potential damage to your relationships.
- **Don't justify your spouse's behaviour:** The chances are that you have been manipulated enough in a relationship by now that you tend to find flaws in you than in the spouse who appears so nice and non-confrontational. So, train yourself to stop inwardly justifying or finding excuses for your spouse's unacceptable behaviour.
- **Stay calm and keep you anger in control:** It's essential to keep a check on your emo-

tions, especially when the passive aggressive spouse is acting up. If you can recognise triggers of your own anger and get a control of your reactions, you are less likely to get psychologically manipulated or gaslighted by the partner.

- **Establishing a healthy channel of communication:** It is important to approach your spouse with vulnerability and empathy as passive aggressive individuals are hypersensitive and often operate from low self-esteem or sense of insecurity. You can help them by wording their angry feelings in a way that it doesn't appear judgmental yet factual. Share with your spouse how his or her behaviour hurts you but do it without placing the blame on them.
- **Set healthy boundaries and ground rules:** It hurts deeply to accept that your spouse might not have your best interest in mind always. However, it is important to set boundaries to protect yourself from any form of emotional or physical abuse. By drawing a clear list of acceptable and unacceptable behaviour might help you and your partner identify the patterns you've been experiencing. Also, setup consequences for the next time he or she does the same thing and don't back down if they demean you.
- **Seek help of a marriage therapist:** It never hurts to seek help of a good marriage therapist. With the right approach and professional support, you can overcome passive-aggressive patterns and manipulations in a relationship to build a happier, healthier marriage together.

However, even after repetitive efforts at your end, if your partner still believes that you are at fault, in that case, you might be forced to take the tough decision of saving yourself from any form of emotional abuse. If despite all your love and patience your partner is persistently falling back to his or her old ways of demeaning you or manipulating you, or they refuse to seek help, it's time to walk out of a relationship that is ruining you (and your partner) inside out. Because marriage should not be about turning yourself inside out, it should also be about loving yourself and defining your own worth in a relationship, and it can only happen when the boundaries about what is acceptable and not are defined clearly for both the partners. And if something unacceptable still finds its way into your marriage, time and again, despite all your efforts, perhaps walking away from a relationship would be a better idea. Because these episodes of withdrawal, aggression, abuse and manipulation are a double-edged sword that wounds you and your partner, too. So, before you fall out of love with yourself and with your partner seek help.

The writer is an engineer-turned-headhunter. *That Night*, published by Penguin, is her debut novel

STILETTOS

MINIMA
CHATTERJI



NEED TO BUILD A SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR RURAL INDIA

If more private companies perceive rural development during and beyond disasters as a market investment, instead of an evangelist or missionary ad-hoc project, we will be able to better support our rural regions

With the tragic second wave of Covid-19 in India done and dusted, malls and restaurants in cities are once again thronging with customers. However, in rural India the devastating effect of Covid-19 this time round has been so grave that the mood there might take far longer to pick up.

By May 2021, one in every two cases was in India's rural areas, while states like Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan had 75% of their cases in rural areas. Exposing the weakness of the public healthcare system, rural India only had 40% of the beds in the country even when it is home to 70% of India's population. In fact the number of hospital beds per 10000 population between 2010 and 2020 reduced from 9 to 5.

I spent much of last month leading the philanthropic effort of a consortium of partners to establish more Covid care facilities in rural parts of India. It has been challenging to raise funds for Covid relief in the second wave as charitable funds for health care in India have dried up while government regulations have clamped down on international funds coming in to the NGOs in the country.

Secondly, given the intensity of this wave, only ICU beds or at least beds equipped with oxygen concentrators were mostly needed in the second wave, pushing up the effort and cost of equipment procurement. Thirdly, many individuals and organisations including established not-for-profits were no longer contributing to the cause voluntarily but instead leveraged the desperate situation of the second wave to make a buck.

Nonetheless with the support of local NGO iBihar and its founder Anis Bari, the sustained efforts of Anant National University, besides my own firm Sustain Labs, we managed to establish 13 Covid care facilities in rural Bihar.



It is indeed easy and not incorrect to blame the government as state governments with higher expenditure on health had lower confirmed cases of Covid. However, at a time when the government has demonstrated substantial inertia in effectively managing the pandemic in the country, the civil society must (and has!) step up. With management expertise, wide distribution networks in the country, human resources at disposal, the private sector has an especially strong role to play in disaster management in rural India. Corporations hold enormous influence within their domains and communities around their factories and depots that are often located in remote or rural areas. In this context, government effectiveness in rural areas can thus be strengthened by leveraging existing private

sector capacities, reach and core competencies.

There is a need to emphasize greater market driven ways for the private sector to support rural development in India, during and beyond disasters. A balanced approach to driving market driven rural development strategies ensure that the development is sustained as stakeholders see incentives to do so. CSR funds alone, on the other hand, are undependable as it runs dry exactly at the time of socio-economic crisis such as the current pandemic, which is ironically when it is most needed.

There are at least three ways that the private sector can play a central role in managing disasters better in rural India.

First, through the investments they make and the decisions they take, companies directly impact the

THERE IS A NEED TO EMPHASIZE GREATER MARKET DRIVEN WAYS FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO SUPPORT RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA

world around us. Establishing markets in rural regions and offering affordable products and services to rural India is a market opportunity. For example, Visaka Industries Limited is a Hyderabad based diversified company that manufactures asbestos cement roofing sheets, building products and textile yarn, in ways that established it as a primarily green business. Further, 90% of Visaka's asbestos sheets, 30% of VBoard products, and 20% of its ATUM solar roofing are sold in rural and semi-urban parts of the country, thus enhancing the quality of life of rural communities.

Similarly, ICICI too has a substantial rural presence. 650 of ICICI's rural branches are in previously unbanked villages and which also promote entrepreneurship among women by developing

tailored financing and loan options catering to rural India. During disasters such as the ongoing pandemic, the reach and institutionalised presence of companies in these rural areas are of paramount importance for providing sustained livelihood and disaster relief to people.

Secondly, rural India still needs to be better connected to cities via roads, highways, and also telecommunications. Goods for relief work (and beyond) need to be transported by roads to villages and this becomes difficult to do if road infrastructure is inadequate. Until June this year we also saw that the vaccination distribution exclusively relied on a digital portal for booking vaccination slots for a significant population of the country, which became an impediment for India to achieve universal immu-

nisation. Ultimately on June 2, 2021, the Supreme Court asked the government to explain how the use of the CoWin app for booking slots is going to overcome the digital divide in rural and urban India, following which offline channels of vaccine booking were introduced. This again is an opportunity for the private sector to step in and build physical and digital infrastructure that connects rural India better to the rest of the country. Indeed the government needs to also prioritise the development of infrastructure projects, make approvals more efficient, besides tightening quality control.

Third, we need more public private partnerships. Disasters by themselves are beyond anyone's control. However, the preparation and response to them can be managed so that the human and economic losses can be minimised or eliminated. This is why, whereas states have the overall responsibility to drive disaster recovery and mitigation efforts it must be understood as a shared task between the government and relevant stakeholders. Currently the Indian private sector provides disaster support in a less systematic and more ad-hoc manner. Far more strategic and planned partnerships between the government and the private sector for rural development and disaster mitigation and recovery remains an area for improvement.

If more private companies perceive rural development during and beyond disasters as a market investment, instead of an evangelist or missionary ad-hoc project alone, we will be able to better support our rural regions and not lose as many lives during disasters.

The writer is the CEO of Sustain Labs, a company that transforms companies towards being sustainable and profitable.

She is the author of Indian Instincts: Essays on Freedom & Equality in India, and a Global Leadership Fellow at the World Economic Forum

Changing demographic profiles & women

The formation and the break-up of a society determine the consequences of a radical shift in external forces. For instance, the negligible say of women in the USA before the 1800s prompted women leaders to band together to promote a new, separate women's rights movement and change the direction of Abolitionist Movement of the 1830s.

Generations upon generations, the gender equality rhetoric has filled the gap of responsibilities and rights through gradual and profound movements around the globe. However, the 21st-century demographic picture is still blurry for women, which face constant denial of individual rights and powers.

The Covid-19 pandemic has been the greatest peacetime disruptor of years of progress in demographics of the society, especially in India, where there only 943 females per 1000 males. Moreover, in 2020, India ranked at 189th position out of 201 countries in terms of female to male ratio. In a society where 77% of parents prefer a male child over a female, this disproportion in the gender ratio has had profound implications in the lives of an average Indian woman during the pandemic.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DIVORCE & CHILD CUSTODY

With only 66% women literate as compared to 83% men in India, the social awareness among women is at the lowest, which makes them incapable of voicing their power against domestic abuse. Indian women filed more domestic violence complaints than recorded in a similar period in the last 10 years. But even this unusual spurt is only the tip of the iceberg as 86% of women who experience domestic violence do not seek help in India. Social isolation amid the pandemic has also caused circumstances where victims and aggressors cannot separate, and there are fewer options

Closing the gender gap in digital inclusion is an urgent priority in the pandemic. This involves a special focus on women-owned enterprises under the stimulus programmers, write RAJESH MEHTA & UDDESHYA GOEL

for women to escape their conditions, especially in the rural regions.

Despite this fact, post first wave, India saw a nearly three-fold increase in cases pertaining to divorce and child custody being filed. From an average of 1,280 cases in a month, their numbers went up to it 3,480 during the lockdown. This has placed them in a situation where they have to face social denial and the increased financial burden of their child individually.

THE SECOND SHIFT AND MENTAL WELL-BEING

A study by McKinsey found mothers are more than three times as likely, compared with fathers, to meet the majority of the demands for housework and caregiving during the pandemic. In addition, they are more than one and a half times as likely as fathers to spend three or more hours per day on these activities.

This "second shift" is where women complete their day of paid work and then spend another full shift doing work at home supporting children, families and at-home tasks. This dynamic has been exacerbated by the limits and lockdowns associated with the pandemic.

Naturally, this has brought detrimental effects on the mental fitness of working women, which constitutes 21% of the total workforce in India. According to a *LinkedIn* survey, the pandemic is taking a toll on the emotional well-being of India's working women as 47% report they are experiencing more stress. For men, this number stood at 38%, pointing towards a disproportionate impact on women.



JOB LOSSES AND POVERTY

Female job loss rates due to Covid-19 are about 1.8 times higher than male job loss rates globally, at 5.7% versus 3.1% respectively. Moreover, 4.5% of

women's employment is at risk in the pandemic globally, compared with 3.8% of men's employment. This is because women are over-represented in industries that are likely to experience the greatest

declines because of the pandemic. These include hospitality and foodservice, retail, education and manufacturing.

As a direct consequence, the pandemic will push 96 million

people into extreme poverty by 2021, 47 millions of whom are women and girls, widening the gender poverty gap.

WIDENING ENTREPRENEURIAL GAP

In India, women-owned a little over 20% of all micro, small and medium businesses compared to nearly 80% among men in FY21. The crisis has made family resources scarce for women, such as financial capital to invest in businesses or digital devices that families must now share as children's schooling has gone online. This has brought a disproportionate impact on female entrepreneurship, including women-owned microenterprises in developing countries like India

THE LOST FUTURE TALENTS

The cascading effect of pandemic-induced economic insecurity is not just the income losses but also the rippling effect of years of education denied to women and girls. Impacts on education and employment have long-lasting consequences that, if unaddressed, will reverse hard-won gains in gender equality. According to a UNESCO estimate, a total of 11 million girls may leave school by the end of the Covid crisis; evidence from previous crises suggests that many will not return.

Lack of education and economic insecurity also increases the risk of gender-based violence. Without sufficient economic resources, women are unable to escape abusive partners and face a greater threat of sexual exploitation, trafficking and teen pregnancy.

These consequences won't disappear when the pandemic subsides: women and girls are likely to experience long-term set-

backs in workforce participation and income. The fallout will be most severe for the most vulnerable women, those who are rarely in the headlines: migrant workers, refugees, marginalised racial and ethnic groups, single-parent households, youth and the poorest of the poor.

DIRECT INTERVENTIONS

The challenge is huge but the cause is even gargantuan. Direct interventions are needed to draw an inflection point in the current demographic status to bring a fundamental change down the line. This mandates addressing attitudinal biases. Any drive toward gender parity arguably starts with efforts to change entrenched, widespread attitudes about women's role in society. This is an extremely difficult and complex challenge that will require all stakeholders to play a sustained part over the long term.

Addressing unpaid child care cannot be overstated. There is an immediate requirement of reducing the gender imbalance in responsibility for care. This involves employer- or state-funded provision of childcare or tax policies that encourage both spouses to work and a professionalised childcare industry, with public-financing support to enable women to work and create employment for others

Interventions are also required to address digital and financial inclusion. Closing the gender gap in digital inclusion is an urgent priority in the pandemic. This involves a special focus on women-owned enterprises under the stimulus programmers. Tax burdens should be eased and where possible, governments should source food, personal protection equipment, and other essential supplies from women-led businesses.

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EdTech platforms: Same old wine in new bottle?

For a country as populated as ours, where a large section struggles to make a decent living, access to basic education still remains a privilege. However, there exists an inherent paradox where even a good percentage of the educated population find it difficult to have gainful and stable employment. So, given this paradox, how do we expect that educating the underprivileged lot will somehow help them in finding a better livelihood?

But before making an attempt to decipher the underlying code behind this paradox, we need to dig a little deeper beneath the surface to come up with an answer to this question.

Who exactly are the stakeholders that tend to benefit most out of the current education system?

All the educational institutes usually serve the purpose of signalling certain qualities like intelligence, diligence, compliance, and conformity to potential employers. As a result, there is a widespread clamour among students to get themselves validated through a paper degree as it presumably increases the chances of landing a well-paying job.

Therefore, as long as we don't find any fault in subscribing to a free market doctrine, only skills and experiences that are directly convertible to income are considered useful. As a consequence, the need for the education system to make itself sufficiently market aligned has

always managed to remain the top priority, where institutes keep thriving by serving as a certification agency. As long as both the stakeholders (students and institutes) are happy with this arrangement, the 20th-century educational ecosystem will keep haunting us even in the 21st century.

Whereas the third stakeholder (parents) doesn't seem to bother much about the present education system, primarily because they themselves are a product of that system. Besides, in India, the sense of pride associated with raising an academically exceptional child is something difficult to express in words. It is the ultimate validation to prove their worth as successful parents. It helps parents in covering every other possible flaws in their parenting. Not only that, but it also gives them a false sense of assurance that their children will eventually become an overachiever in actual life.

The false promise!

Now given this ground reality, the more we see change around this system, the more they seem to remain the same. And that seems to be true for the growth in EdTech platforms. All the changes introduced so far in the education ecosystem remind us of the earlier models of coaching centres that held a promise of a better tomorrow if you could afford their fees.

However, despite these apparent shortcomings, the



media is never tired of celebrating the success of EdTech initiatives that are nothing but a rehash of the same old wine in the shinier bottle. The content and delivery by most of these EdTech platforms are woefully dated, with a minimum collaboration, participation, and feedback from students.

Now given the widespread celebration in media, there is a temptation to accept education as a potent investment opportunity for people with deep pockets. Given the poor quality associated with most forms of public education, people, in general, have been conditioned to accept the association of good quality education at a cost. As a result, there is no dearth of institutes claiming to offer the same.

As an integral part of tar-

geting the gullible parents and students, there is a deliberate attempt from these EdTech entities with deep pockets to sell their product as something very essential for the success of students — an unsubstantiated claim sold as gospel truth.

Celebrity endorsement is another potent method to capture the attention of insecure parents. These insecure parents are made to feel guilty if they dare to deny their kids "the key to success" on financial grounds. There is a lot of unnecessary noise created in the media about the potency of their life-altering products and courses. A kid as young as 5 years is not spared from their tempting media campaigns.

Is there a way to weed out these outright commercial entities occupying the educational

space?

In the era of low-cost internet, the availability of good quality free content has never been in question. It's the concomitant contextual understanding and subsequent follow-up lectures that make the whole difference. You can't expect a student with limited working knowledge of English to comprehend a two-hour lecture by Harvard faculty on quantum physics.

So, what's the solution?

Given the kind of complexity inherent in the problem, the solution needs to incorporate the seemingly conflicting interest of different stakeholders into account. Therefore, it wouldn't make sense to come up with one size solution that fits everyone.

It's important to embrace the true potential of EdTech. It's

not just about reformatting books into pdf or teaching remotely, it's also about using tech to deliver brand-new learning architecture, opening up the world of education to new audiences, boosting student engagement, while cutting costs to improve access for all.

There is no denying that the pre-university generation is digital natives; they favour individual expression and personalisation to such an extent that they expect to resolve all of life's problems with the device in the palm of their hands. They don't mind being bombarded with information via social media.

Therefore, there is a need to go straight to the heart of social media, where Gen Z spends a lot of time. EdTech platforms need to find a way to

cut through the noise and reach students across the social divides who could be given the needed support.

In the name of online classes whatever is being done with books and whiteboard can merely be termed as a good start especially for visual learners, but can't be termed as a technological revolution in the education space by any stretch of the imagination. Because a forward-looking twenty-first-century education envisages more than exposing students to audio-visual content. Here every learner is expected to collaborate, communicate, be creative and think critically to solve problems!

We need to prepare students to work in teams, exchange ideas with peers who may be in different geographies. The students are expected to find solutions by thinking out of the box with the world of information at their fingertips. We need to outgrow the mentality of spoon-feeding, and allow children to learn for themselves and be there to support them as a facilitator.

Till we succeed in bringing these much-needed changes within the existing ecosystem, the promise of gaining a better livelihood after going through the pain of years of formal education will eventually turn out to be a hollow one.

(The writer is an educator, former IRS officer & author of upcoming book "The Current Perspective on INDIAN ECONOMY.")

Do we actually need them? The content and delivery by most of these EdTech platforms are woefully dated, with a minimum collaboration, participation, and feedback from students. EdTech platforms need to find a way to cut through the noise and reach students across the social divide



PIYUSH KAMAL

PERSPECTIVE

South Sudan — A decade of Independence

This month South Sudan is celebrating its first decade of Independence, but there is not much to rejoice. Since its separation from mainland Sudan, it has been experiencing continued violence, endemic corruption, poverty and underdevelopment. However, the 10th anniversary of country's historic achievement of Independence provides an opportunity to inject fresh initiatives to the ongoing peace process



MAKHAN SAIKIA

South Sudan became the world's youngest nation on July 9, 2011. The birth of the Republic of South Sudan was the culmination of six years of peace process that began with the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in 2005. With the signing of the CPA, the war between the South and the North Sudan came to an end and the peace deal, known as the Naivasha Agreement between Khartoum Central Government and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement (SPLA/M), led to a historic referendum which took place in Southern Sudan between January 9 and 15 in 2011.

The main purpose of the referendum was to decide whether the region should continue to remain a part of Sudan or become independent. However, a simultaneous referendum that was supposed to be held in the Abyei region on whether to join South Sudan could not take place due to massive violence. The Referendum Commission published the results of the referendum on February 7, 2011, which showed more than 98.83 per cent people voted in favour of separation from the mainland Sudan.

South Sudan's partition from Sudan was predicted long ago. Interestingly, this part of Sudan was experiencing unrest for nearly six decades before its Independence. Omar al-Bashir, then President of Sudan and a former army veteran, who ruled the country from 1989 to 2019, indeed talked about the right of South Sudan to secede from the mainland. Once a powerful strongman who ruled one of Africa's largest nations with an iron fist, Bashir commented that the referendum for South Sudan was helpful as he believed "unity could not be forced by power". However, then he was of the opinion that secession was not the answer for bringing an end to the myriad of problems of South Sudan. He had said, "The stability of the South is very important to us because any instability in the South will have an impact on the north...The

South suffers from many problems. It's been at war since 1959. The South does not have the ability to provide for its citizens or create a state or authority".

The brutal man, who ruled his country for three decades and having the scar of carrying genocide in Darfur, almost turned his words prophetic over the newly independent South Sudan. As of this date, Juba is fervently struggling for peace, stability and unity.

This month the country is celebrating its first decade of Independence, but there is not much to rejoice. Since its separation from mainland Sudan, it has been experiencing continued violence, endemic corruption, poverty and underdevelopment. South Sudan is located in the northern and eastern hemisphere of the planet earth. It is bordered by six other African nations — Sudan to the north, Ethiopia to the east, Kenya to the south-east, Uganda to the south, the Democratic Republic of Congo to the south-west and Central African Republic to the west. The country has been undergoing a number of significant changes since 2011. At its birth, South Sudan had only 10 provincial States, but in 2015, it was divided into 15. In 2017, the country was further made into 32 provinces purely based on ethnic lines. However, after three years of running a troubled Government and signing of a peace treaty in February 2020, the South Sudanese Civil War came to an end. And with this, Juba decided to roll back the ethnic divisions of States created in 2017 and reverted to the earlier system of 10 States.

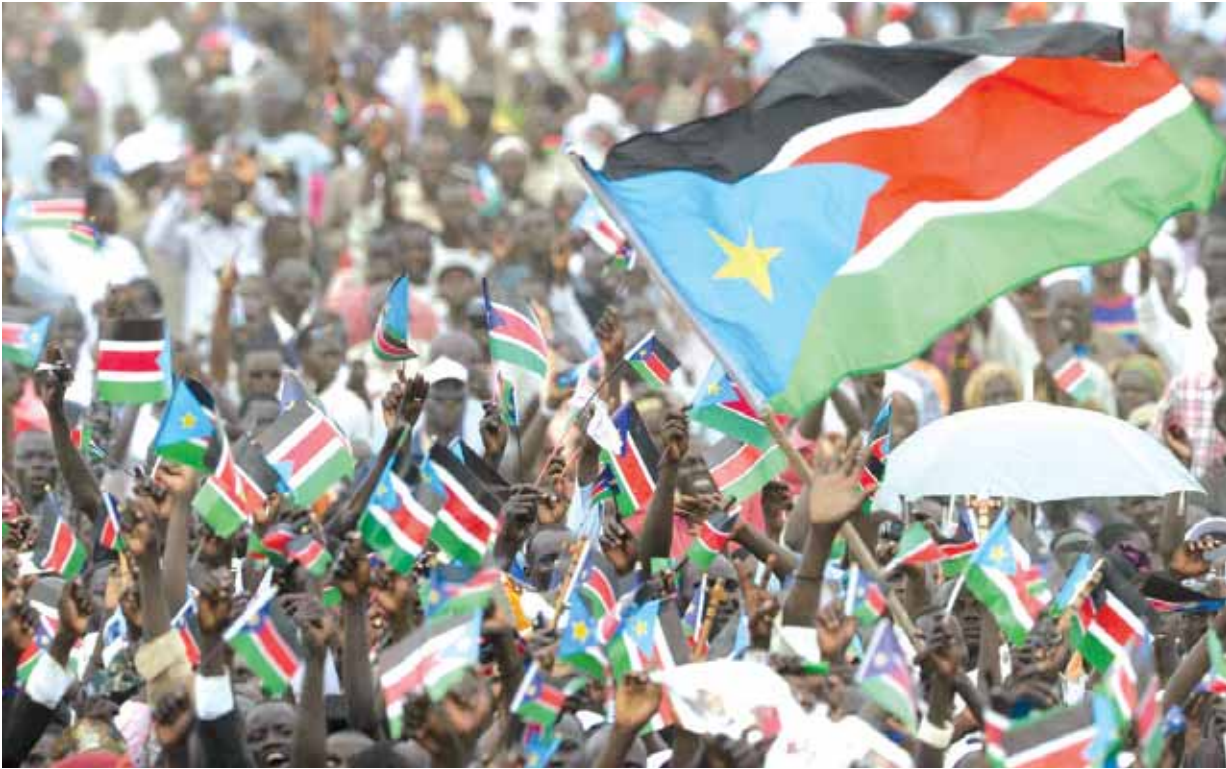
How the Civil War began in South Sudan? The two titans — Salva Kiir, the President, and Riek Machar, the former Vice President, were fighting to claim their rights over the fragile nation. This conflict started just after two years of the country's Independence from the mainland Sudan. The vast majority (over 80 per cent) of the people fleeing South Sudan in the past are women and children. And sadly, children make up to the 63 per cent of the total South Sudanese refugees during the

country's recent Civil War that lasted between December 15, 2013 and February 22, 2020, covering a period of nearly six years, two months and one week. Since the Civil War erupted, nearly 400,000 people have been killed and over 2.3 million became refugees and asylum seekers.

In November 2013, President Kiir, from the Dinka ethnic group, dismissed Machar who belonged to the Nuer group of South Sudan. Following the rumours of a possible coup, the President immediately replaced the members of the Army and the Government. He added fuel to the fire by dismissing all the main organs of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), citing that their time in office had expired. Further, massive violence sparked between the armed groups of Kiir and Machar, when the President accused the latter of plotting a coup against him in December 2013. Gradually, the violence took an ethnic turn by dividing and arming militias and villagers belonging to the Dinka and Nuer groups. There have also been allegations by both sides of crimes against humanity, including rape, extra-judicial killings, abductions, torture and the use of child soldiers in the war.

How has the UN responded to the crisis so far? As large swaths of South Sudan are facing violence against civilians, particularly children and women, the UN peacekeeping mission in the country known as United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) is establishing a number of camps to protect the victims. Nicholas Haysom, the UN Secretary General's

Special Representative for South Sudan briefed the UN Security Council about the current situation on June 21, 2021. In his briefing he said: "I would like to highlight the pervasive insecurity, in particular inter-communal violence, which continues to obstruct the realisation of a durable and sustainable peace in South Sudan. This year more than 80 per cent of the civilian casualties were attributed to inter-com-



munal violence and community-based militias". Therefore, the UNMISS has a turbulent road ahead in South Sudan.

What is the latest peace deal? On September 12, 2018, President Kiir and Vice-President-turned rebel leader Machar signed a renewed peace agreement to put an end to the five-year long ethnic war in South Sudan. The agreement known as the Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict of the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) was nothing new and indeed built upon a previous peace deal signed by both the leaders. It's a renewed peace process as both these rebels have come across a number of negotiations in the past. But then all of them failed as both the parties keep violating the terms for strengthening their own militias. The R-ARCSS envisioned an eight-month "pre-transitional period" that focussed largely on stabilising the security situation of the country. After eight months, the agreement stipulates the starting of another eight-month "transitional period" when the country would be led by a "Unity Government" with Kiir as President and Machar as

Vice President. Needless to say, that the proposed Unity Government structure resembles the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict of the Republic of South Sudan (ARCSS) signed on August 17, 2015. Even under that agreement, Machar was supposed to be appointed as the Vice President of the country. But unfortunately, the formation of that Government was delayed till April 2016 as Machar refused to travel to the Capital city, fearing for his security and life. Eventually, fierce fighting between the two groups began in the summer of 2016 in Juba and Machar had to leave as widespread violence engulfed the entire country.

A UN Report highlighted that the slow implementation of the revitalised peace accord may push the country again into a chaos. Experts on Africa say that political, ethnic and military divisions are growing across South Sudan. The parties and factions that signed the peace deal are again fighting in many places. Also, the UN says that nearly 100,000 people are facing famine like situations in the war-torn nation.

Even barely a year after signing the peace deal in 2019, South Sudan's National Security Service recruited a force of 10,000 fighters in President Kiir's stronghold. These were all apparently violating the peace accord. The Kiir administration is taking very little interest in following the terms and conditions of the deal. Sadly, an often-overlooked conflict, the South Sudanese civil war has already taken the lives of more than 400,000 people so far. Violence, disease and dire scarcity mar this land-locked country in East Central Africa even after a decade of its Independence. Women and children are largely bearing the brunt of the violence.

However, the 10th anniversary of South Sudan's historic achievement of Independence provides an opportunity to inject fresh initiatives to the ongoing peace process. The idea is to bring back peace, stability and growth that all South Sudanese people deserve today. Notwithstanding the recent signs of tranquillity, the overall implementation of the revitalised agreement is abysmally slow. Nevertheless, the feeble and almost paralysed insti-

tutions of State governance throughout South Sudan have directly helped the perpetrators of violence to exploit the existing perennial ethnic and communal cleavages. Entrenched insecurity has prevented the regular cultivation and herd rearing practices of the traditional communities in the countryside leading to food shortage and famine.

Above all, the global Covid-19 pandemic and a continued economic downturn are deteriorating the current state of affairs in South Sudan. The weakened law and order and rising criminal networks are making huge roadblocks in bringing peace back. It is time for Kiir and Machar to rebuild the newest nation of the world once again. Let Juba jubilate!

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Lucky number 22
Lucky colour Grey
Lucky day Friday

Lucky number 11
Lucky colour Pink
Lucky day Monday

Lucky number 31
Lucky colour Red
Lucky day Wednesday

Lucky number 20
Lucky colour Sky Blue
Lucky day Friday

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Watch your thoughts

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