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INDIA'S MAGIC:  
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10 VIVACITY

## 'Bande Utkal' now in school syllabus



PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

'Bande Utkal Janani', the iconic song written by the Katakabi Laxmikanta Mohapatra, is to be taught to Classes-IX and X students. In a notification on Wednesday, the Board of Secondary Education said the State Government has taken the decision to include the song in the First Language Odia in the curriculum for Classes-IX and X.

The Utkal Sammilani welcomed the decision of the Government. Sammilani Mnacheswar branch president Dillip Dashsharma thanked Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik for the step. The song written in 1912 was accorded the State Anthem status on June 7, 2020.

## J&K political future hinges on all-party meet outcome

Centre to break ice with J&K leaders today

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

The return of political normalcy in Jammu & Kashmir and conduct of elections will largely depend on the outcome of the crucial all-party meet convened by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the leaders of the Union Territory in New Delhi on Thursday.

Former Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister and PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti arrived in Delhi on Tuesday. Though the meeting is taking place in the national Capital, the security has been beefed up all across the Union Territory of J&K. A high alert has also been sounded along the Line of Control and the International border to prevent any misadventure from anti-national elements at this crucial juncture.

After the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019, it is for the first time that more than one dozen leaders from the region, including four former Chief Ministers and four Deputy Chief Ministers, would



A security official stands guard ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's meeting with political leaders from Jammu & Kashmir, in Srinagar on Wednesday. This will be PM Modi's first interaction with all the mainstream political parties of Jammu & Kashmir since August 5, 2019, when the Centre abrogated the States special status and bifurcated it into two Union Territories: J&K and Ladakh

be sitting together under the same roof with the Prime Minister to share their opinions and give suggestions to kickstart the stalled "internal" dialogue process. Now the question arises in the absence of any concrete agenda of the meeting, whether the Centre Government would be able to

break the ice or the mainstream leaders would return home empty handed. Inside reports suggested the Central Government is keen on pushing the agenda of timely completion of process of delimitation of Assembly constituencies so that Assembly polls can be organised in due course of

time. Voices have been raised in support of restoring the statehood of Jammu and Kashmir as part of biggest confidence building measure. The same demand has been raised by the leaders from both the regions and the Union Government too is committed to grant statehood to J&K at an appropriate time.

## State adds a high of 46 Covid deaths

TOTAL TOLL MOUNTS TO 3,717; 3,456 NEW POSITIVES; TPR RISES TO 5.2%

BBSR REPORTS 375 MORE INFECTIONS; 4 DIE

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

A day after registering a considerable dip in the daily Covid-19 positive cases and deaths, the State registered a slight increase in both positive cases and casualties on Wednesday. In the last 24 hours, 3,456 people tested positive in the 30 districts while 46 patients succumbed to the virus during the period. With the new cases, the total tally rose to 8,86,946. The fresh cases included 1,973 from quarantine and 1,843 local contacts.

In the last 24 hours, 65,845 samples were tested and the test positivity rate (TPR) stood at 5.2 percent. Khordha district reported the day's highest 499 cases followed by Cuttack 480, Puri 289 Jajpur 267, Bhadrak 194, Mayurbhanj 180, Baleswar 174 Kendrapada 147, Nayagarh 126 and Angul 118. As many as 20 districts reported below 100 cases. Those are Sundargarh 90, Malkangiri 82, Jagatsinghpur 81, Koraput 81, Keonjhar 73,

Bargarh 69, Dhenkanal 57, Rayagada 56, Subarnapur 43, Nabarangpur 42, Sambalpur 39, Kandhamal 31, Balangir 28, Boudh 25, Kalahandi 21, Jharsuguda 20, Ganjam 19, Gajapati 17, Nuapada 16 and Deogarh 11. With the 46 new deaths, the total toll mounted to 3,717.

The highest seven fatalities were reported from Khordha district followed by five each from Bargarh, Cuttack and Puri, four each from Jharsuguda and Sambalpur, three each from Sundargarh and Jagatsinghpur, two each from Ganjam, Kalahandi, Mayurbhanj and one each from Kandhamal, Kendrapada, Koraput and Subarnapur.

Till now, 8,48,960 persons have recovered in State. State capital Bhubaneswar on Wednesday registered 375 new Covid-19 positive cases, with which its total tally rose to 87,639. This was an increase from the 339 infections reported on Tuesday. Out of new cases, 300 were local contacts and 75 were quarantine cases.

Meanwhile, four more patients succumbed to the disease in the city in last 24 hours, with which total death toll rose to 415. However, 384 persons recovered on day, increasing total recoveries to 85,737.

## No Rath Yatra except in Puri: HC

Court refuses to intervene in Govt decision

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Putting an end to speculations on conduct of Rath Yatra at multiple places in the State, the Orissa High Court (HC) on Wednesday refused to intervene in the State Government's decision to allow the car festival of Lord Jagannath only in Puri this year.

The court's decision came in response to several writ petitions filed before it seeking permission for holding of the festival at multiple temples, including Baldevjew in Kendrapada district.

However, the court refused to intervene in the matter and quashed all the pleas. Earlier this month, the State Government cancelled Rath Yatra in all parts of the State except Puri in view of the prevailing Covid-19 pandemic. However, rituals relating to the annual festival may be performed in the respective temple premises, it was informed by the Government.

Like last year, the Rath Yatra in Puri will be held on the Grand Road without devotees and in adherence to all Covid-19 safety norms.



Government of Odisha

## DIFFERENT PROJECTS TO AUGMENT HEALTH CARE FACILITIES IN ODISHA

### INAUGURATION OF DIFFERENT PROJECTS

#### GANJAM DISTRICT

- ▶ 12 Bed Special Neonatal Care Unit-SNCU Complex and OPD Complex (G+2) at City Hospital, Berhampur, Ganjam.
- ▶ 4 Bed Dialysis Unit at Sub-Divisional Hospital (SDH), Bhanjanagar.
- ▶ Primary Health Centre (PHC), Hugulapata of Kukudakhandi Block.
- ▶ OPD Complex (G+1) at Community Health Centre (CHC) Bomkei of Digapahandi Block.

### LAYING OF FOUNDATION STONE OF DIFFERENT PROJECTS

#### DISTRICT HEADQUARTER HOSPITAL, BARGARH

- ▶ Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO) Storage vessel system (6 KL).
- ▶ Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) based Oxygen Generation Plant (167 LPM).

#### DISTRICT HEADQUARTER HOSPITAL, GANJAM

- ▶ Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO) Storage Vessel System (6 KL).
- ▶ Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) based Oxygen Generation Plant (833 LPM) for MKCG, MC&H, Ganjam.
- ▶ Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) based Oxygen Generation Plant (500 LPM) and Bottling Plant (250 LPM) for City Hospital, Berhampur, Ganjam.

#### DISTRICT HEADQUARTER HOSPITAL, JAJPUR

- ▶ Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO) Storage Vessel System (6 KL).
- ▶ Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) based Oxygen Generation Plant (500 LPM).

#### DISTRICT HEADQUARTER HOSPITAL, KANDHAMAL

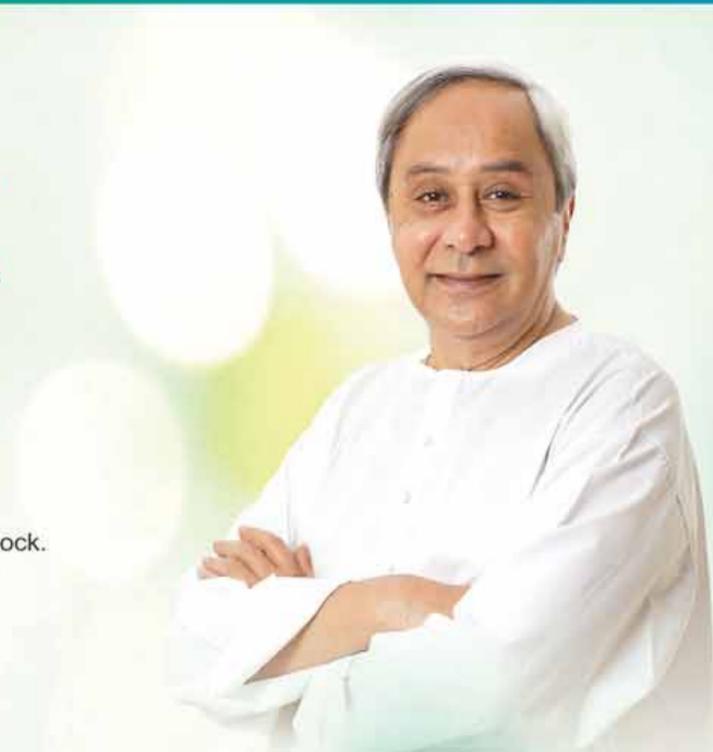
- ▶ Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO) Storage Vessel System (6 KL).
- ▶ Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) based Oxygen Generation Plant (500 LPM).

#### DISTRICT HEADQUARTER HOSPITAL, KENDRAPADA

- ▶ Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO) Storage Vessel System (6 KL).
- ▶ Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) based Oxygen Generation Plant (500 LPM).

#### DISTRICT HEADQUARTER HOSPITAL, KEONJHAR

- ▶ Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO) Storage Vessel System (6 KL).
- ▶ Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) based Oxygen Generation Plant (833 LPM).



Inauguration & Foundation Stone  
by

**Shri Naveen Patnaik**  
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Odisha

24th June 2021

#### DISTRICT HEADQUARTER HOSPITAL, RAYAGADA

- ▶ Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO) Storage Vessel System (6 KL).
- ▶ Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) based Oxygen Generation Plant (833 LPM).

#### DISTRICT HEADQUARTER HOSPITAL, MALKANGIRI

- ▶ Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO) Storage Vessel System (6 KL).
- ▶ Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) based Oxygen Generation Plant (833 LPM).

Health & Family Welfare Department

# CM alerts admn to prepare for floods, cyclones

**SAYS COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PARAMOUNT FOR DISASTER MGMT**  
**REITERATES 'EVERY LIFE IS PRECIOUS'**

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWARA**

Chairing a State Disaster Management Committee meeting on Wednesday, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik stressed the need for community participation in disaster management and asked officials to ensure people's participation in the disaster-prone areas.

He also reiterated his Government's decision to educate students, Government employees and people's representatives to build a disaster-resilient society.

"As the south-west monsoon is effective now, the time between the months from June to October is very crucial as all kinds of natural disasters such as cyclones and floods occur during this period," he pointed out. Patnaik said that after a thorough review of the preparedness plan, the entire administration should get ready to face all eventualities of disasters. The administration should be fully equipped with



rescue and relief plans, prior information dissemination, drinking water supply, public healthcare and fodder for cattle. The ODRAF and Fire Services units should be on high alert.

He directed that all departmental and district-level control rooms be kept open 24 hours and special attention should be on vulnerable population like pregnant women, widows, differently-abled, children and the elderly.

Patnaik said that despite the effects of Covid-19, Odisha has been appreciated globally for its effective disaster exercise as the State always works on the mandate 'Every life is precious' and a 'whole-of-Government approach'. It guides the State to minimise the impact. "Odisha is one of the most disaster-stricken States in our country and we are witnessing recurring natural disasters in fre-

quent intervals. The climate change has further worsened the extreme climatic events," he said. During 2020-21, Odisha has successfully faced two very severe cyclones like Amphan and Yaas for its early preparedness. "My Government is trying to make foolproof cyclone-resilient infrastructure in coastal areas, but it requires a huge amount of money. We have already apprised the Union Government on these," said Patnaik.

At the beginning of the meeting, Finance Minister Niranjan Pujari placed a detailed account of the State's disaster preparedness plan. Among others, Brahmapur MP Chandrasekar Sahu, Congress Legislature Party Leader Narasingha Mishra, Puri MLA Jayant Sarangi, Aul MLA Pratap Keshari Deb and Bhograi MLA Anant Das participated in the meeting.

# Counterfeit drug trade: Three arrested by STF

**₹50 lakh frozen**

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWARA**

The Special Task Force (STF) of the Crime Branch on Wednesday arrested three persons in connection with spurious drugs trade in the State.

According to sources, the STF arrested the director and two employees of Medilloyd Medicament Private Limited for their alleged involvement in the illegal trade of the duplicate medicines.

The three accused were forwarded to the court and over Rs 50 lakh stashed in the bank account of the accused has been seized. Further investigation into the case was ongoing, said STF officials.

Recently, a huge stock of spurious 'Favipiravir', a prescribed drug for Covid-19 treatment, was seized from a chemist shop in Cuttack.

Medilloyd Medicament Private Limited in Kanika Chhak, Cuttack was raided on June 11 by Drugs Inspectors for the procurement and stocking of spurious Favipiravir Tablets (Favimax-400), allegedly manufactured

by Max Relief Health Care, Solan, Himachal Pradesh, reportedly a non-existing manufacturer. Out of the available stock of 17,400 tablets, 400 tablets were drawn for statutory testing and the balance 17,000 tablets were seized under the provision of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules thereunder.

Following the seizure of spurious drugs in Cuttack, many chemist shops across the State were raided to investigate the root of the duplicate drugs trade.

The STF's success in nabbing the accused is significant because counterfeit pharmaceuticals and medical supplies are a transnational organised crime and criminal syndicates want to encash on the turmoil caused by the pandemic.

Standard or falsified medical products can harm patients and fail to treat the diseases for which they were intended. Their very existence poses an unacceptable risk to public health. They lead to loss of confidence in medicines, healthcare providers and health systems, according to experts.

# AMNS proceeds for its K'pada steel project

**Conducts feasibility study with Govt help**

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWARA**

Steel major ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India (AM/NS India) is conducting a feasibility study for its proposed 12-million-tonne-per-annum (MTPA) integrated steel plant in Kendrapada district.

"The company officials with the help of the State Government are now conducting a feasibility study at the field for establishment of a project in Kendrapada," said a senior officer of the Industries Department.

The Government has identified a location for the proposed steel plant and the officials are doing a field study, he said, adding that the company would require over 1,000 acres of land for the project.

After completing the study, the company would submit a formal proposal in the Single Window System for approval of the Government, the official said. The Government would extend all possible support for execution of the mega project that would bring over a Rs

50,000-crore investment to the State and also create huge employment opportunities, he said. The Gujarat-based AM/NS India has signed an MoU with the State government for the greenfield project with an investment of Rs 50,000 crore. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and company head Lakshmi N Mittal were present during the agreement-signing ceremony held in Bhubaneswar.

Describing Kendrapada as the 'Karma Bhumi' of his late father Biju Patnaik, the Chief Minister had said the place provides ideal prospects for an integrated steel complex. Notably, the AMNS India is a 60:40 joint venture company between Mittal's Luxembourg-based ArcelorMittal and the Nippon Steel of Japan.

The Thakurani iron ore mines in Odisha, which the AMNS India has won in an auction process, is now operating at full 5.5-MTPA capacity. The company has other projects in the State including the 6-MTPA pelletisation plant at Paradip, which is being expanded to 12-MTPA; a beneficiation complex in Keonjhar and a slurry pipeline that are operational.

# Puri scribe suffers brain stroke, hospitalised

**₹20,000 released from CMRF**

**PNS ■ PURI**

The district administration paid ₹20,000 to journalist Dipak Mishra who is presently undergoing treatment for brain stroke in Sum Hospital of Bhubaneswar.

On recommendation of district Collector Samarth Verma, Chief Minister's Relief Funds (CMRF) sanctioned the amount for Mishra for treatment. Sources said that Mishra, a resident of Rench GP under Delanga block, was working as a reporter for an Odia channel.

On Monday, he suddenly succumbed to brain stroke and was sent to hospital. On request from journalists in Puri, Collector Verma sanctioned the amount. Delanga Tehsildar Mahendra Badhei met the father of Mishra and handed over the amount.

Several journalists' bodies of Puri including 'The Media', a forum of journalists and writers, have urged the Collector for more help as the money sanctioned from CMRF is very negligible to meet the treatment expenditure. Notably, Mishra might undergo neuro surgery, which costs lakhs of rupees.

# One held by EOW for embezzling ₹3.5 cr subsidy

**₹1.9 crore in fraudsters A/C frozen**

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWARA**

In a significant breakthrough, the Crime Branch's Economic Offences Wing (EOW) on Wednesday arrested a fraudster for allegedly misappropriating Government subsidy worth Rs 3.49 crore meant for agricultural equipment.

The accused was identified as Kamaljeet Singh of Bargarh district. He has been booked under Sections 419, 420, 406, 467, 468, 471, 20-B of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Section 66 of the IT Act.

The accused was held based on a complaint lodged by Rigin Bennet, Manager (Public Relations) of Redlands Ashlyn Motors PLC in Thrissur of Kerala. The complainant had alleged that another accused Harpal Singh and others managed to obtain registration from Odisha Agriculture Department for selling farm equipment by preparing forged documents in the name of his company.

The accused fraudulently uploaded in the portal of Direct Benefit Transport (DBT) to have supplied 281 Rice Transplanter machines to farmers of Sambalpur, Subarnapur, Bargarh districts and misappropriated Rs.3.5 crore which is the subsidy amount by men-

tioning fake engine and chassis number of rice transplanter machines.

During 2018-20, accused Harpal Singh, who is the dealer of the company, along with his brother Kamaljeet Singh and others had uploaded fake engine and chassis numbers along with photographs of beneficiaries and machines in DBT portal of Odisha Government.

The duo had been shown to have sold rice transplanter machines of Redlands Ashlyn Motors PLC to 278 farmers of Balangir, Sambalpur, Bargarh, Subarnapur districts without procuring the same from the company. It has been found during investigation that the machines were never sold, but only shown in papers to have been sold. Harpal Singh had uploaded his photographs along with the beneficiaries and fake machines in DBT portals with a view to defraud the Government.

The photographs were taken by Kamaljeet Singh. After the photographs were uploaded, subsidy amounts ranging from Rs.1 lakh to Rs.1.5 lakh were credited to the account of 278 beneficiary farmers. The total subsidy amount comes to Rs.3.49 crore.

"Soon after the subsidy amount was credited to the account of beneficiary farmers, Kamaljeet and his brother Harpal used to lure the beneficiary to withdraw the total subsidy amount.

**Classes-IX, X syllabuses to be slashed 30%**

**BHUBANESWAR:**

The syllabuses for students of Classes-IX and X would be reduced by 30 per cent this year, informed School and Mass Education Minister Samir Ranjan Dash on Wednesday. "Online classes are currently underway across State due to Covid-19 situation. However, it is not possible on part of each and every student to avail online education. Hence, we have decided to reduce syllabuses," Minister said. He pointed out that Government had also last year slashed the syllabuses for Classes-I to XII by 30 per cent as academic session was affected due to pandemic. Dash further added that a decision regarding reopening of schools in State is yet to be taken.

# Monsoon blues in 'Smart City'

# Many areas waterlogged after downpour

**Denizens in misery because of agencies' failure**

**SAROJ MISHRA ■ BHUBANESWAR**

In the monsoon season, Smart City Bhubaneswar is plagued by chronic waterlogging year after year, but the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) and the Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA), the Drainage Division and other concerned agencies are very far from finding a solu-



tion to it. This has left the city denizens fend for themselves as the blame game begins when many low-lying residential

areas and even main roads turn into lakes and motorists have to wade through neck-deep water to commute to their destinations.

On Wednesday, several low-lying areas remained waterlogged after heavy rains lashed the city. Areas like Nayapalli, Laxmisagar, Bomikhal, Sundarpada and other localities were inundated. Local residents alleged that due to blockage in drainage channels, they are facing problems in case of heavy rain. Earlier, the BMC had claimed to have made elaborate arrangements by posting pictures and tweeting on Twitter

about the Gangua main drainage channel being cleaned and a massive desiltation drive of drains being carried out for discharge of rain water from different parts of the city.

To make matters worse, every year the civic body officials parrot the same rehearsed lines that, "High-power pump sets have been installed to drain out rain water in low lying areas and a dedicated control room is also functioning round-the-clock." However, with the weather office predicting heavy rains in the State, including the capital city one can only fear for the worse and pray to the weather gods.

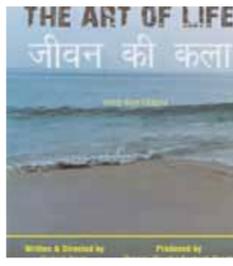
# 'The Art of Life' shines at S'pore Carnival

**Film made by Odisha's Santosh Panda**

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWARA**

Odia filmmaker Santosh Panda's Hindi non-feature film 'The Art of Life' has won the prestigious Outstanding Achievement Award at World Film Carnival-Singapore. The film earned the award in the Narrative Features category for the month of May 2021. Directed by Panda, the 43-minute-long 'The Art of Life' is

based on sand art. It had also bagged the Jury Mention at the Dada Saheb Phalke Film Festival. Noted director Susant Misra, veteran actor Jublee



Sundaray, French actress Viollet Brigitte, Dr Vedula Ramalaxmi, Nitu Mishra and Kalinga Dash have portrayed various characters in film.

# 14 G'pati transgenders vaccinated

**Thanks to efforts by PHEO**

**PNS ■ PARALAKHEMUNDI**

Mamata Padhi who was recently transferred to Gurandi CHC, as public health extension officer from Khajuripada CHC, arranged vaccinations for transgenders. On Tuesday, in presence of ADMO Gajapati, Dr Mahemmad Sirajuddin Munir, 14 persons belonging to transgenders were vaccinated at Gandhi Memorial School, Paralakhemundi. She made efforts to get them registered individually at vaccination centre. Madhu Barada, a transgen-

der, said, "We are indebted to Mamata ma'am who helped in getting us vaccinated. We are

normally ignored by society, but Mamata ma'am showed us empathy."



# HITTING THE BULLSEYE India suffered 2nd wave as rulers imagined virus had vanished



**BISWARAJ PATNAIK**

The first Covid wave was managed by India just too well, particularly after the Odisha Chief Minister showed the way by first employing lockdown and shutdown to cut off the infection chain fast. Prime Minister Modi had followed suit three days later. The first corona invasion lasted exactly seven months between March and September

2020. By some divine design, the virus packed its bags and left at a time when vaccines had not even showed up or herd immunity remotely achieved. After infection came down, the Government of India became lax and flung open all doors to let in all kinds of pathogens.

Furthermore, they went on election mode full throttle, and encouraged gullible religious crowds to bump into one another in astronomical numbers - all this resulting in uncontrollable spread of a renewed infection. The saf-iron biggies also managed to influence the then CJI to overturn his own court order to favour fanatics screaming in favour of the Puri Car Festival to happen. By the time the festival was over, too many were infected.

The second wave came while the whole country was off guard. It overwhelmed the system because the new strain was more virulent and much more infectious. Though vaccines

were already out with expert endorsements, most Indians were hesitant to take any. It seems now the second wave is just beginning to pack bags, go and eventually perish. But it is not gone yet. And they say it's changing shape and traits to strike yet again.

The willing elderly were vaccinated on priority. So, they escaped the second viral invasion to some extent. The non-vaccinated younger lot took the beating badly, many of them succumbing to death. Lately, they have found out a horrific corona strain in India which has also surreptitiously spread across the UK and the US by now.

Rattled Indian authorities are readying for the battle against the third wave expected to be weaker than even the first. Obviously, the best way out presently is rapid vaccination which is happening in India already. At least 9 to 10 million Indians need to be vaccinated everyday to contain

the virus and keep people safe. If vaccination gets slower than that, new variants will get time to develop and spread. Undoubtedly, the second wave has taught mankind valuable lessons, particularly in terms of oxygen supply in Government hospitals and community health centres, Odisha being a rare exception. Odisha had so much surplus that after consumption, it transported oxygen to at least 17 suffocating States like Maharashtra and Delhi!

India officially recorded nearly 120,000 fatalities and more than 9 million infections in May 2021 alone, a figure that top-level experts believe is a major underestimate. But on official records, India has nearly 30 million cases and more than 380,000 deaths since the start of the pandemic, which are frightening figures by any standard. There are some experts who maintain that the third wave may still prove to be extreme-

ly difficult. They have warned that if safety behaviour norms are not strictly followed by people, and enforcement is lenient, Indians are in for a big trouble again.

Even if lockdown is the primary reason for the recent fall in number of infection cases, the parallel precautionary mask-use, social distancing and frequent hand-washing have been critical too and these precautions have to continue way into the 2022 AD.

By then, global vaccination will have been over and even more highly effective treatment protocols known. So, by then tackling the weakened virus, no matter what the strain, would only be a simple, victory-guaranteed little battle.

But if people show laxity by not wearing masks or wearing it inappropriately or violate social distancing norms and if law enforcement agencies do not penalise heavily to ensure vaccinations, then we are certain-

ly in for horrific times. The next wave could be worse than the second wave. By the middle of May, medical masters had confirmed that lockdown alone had brought down the count of daily cases, though severity of covid had not diminished a bit.

The threat of the third wave hitting is for sure, and not a hypothesis. The least-expected second wave hit the India in February when everyone had started going on vacation or indulging in merrymaking and fun parties or socialising in public places.

The second wave hit invincibly and claimed so many lives so fast. Even when best homemade vaccines were being served on a platter, Indians either looked away in disapproval or hid away in holes because some frightened fools had rumoured publicly that vaccines can have irreversible side effects like loss of reproductive capabilities or legrading into magnetic demons of

flesh and blood like inanimate metal. Until the end of 2021, there needs to be an aggressive surveillance strategy in Covid hotspots for selective clamping of lockdowns in the event of any significant or sudden surge of infection. The moment a significant surge in a particular area occurs and the test positivity rate goes above 5 per cent, area-specific lockdown and containment measures have to be implemented as standard protocol.

All this because under no circumstances, country-wide lockdowns and shutdowns can be a solution keeping survival economic activities in mind. Not only are the daily wagers or micro entrepreneurs thrown out of economic safety nets, gigantic corporates too take massive beatings on countless fronts thereby making the country poorer than they can recover easily.

A recent study by Public Health England (PHE) compared the Alpha variant, first

found in the UK, with the newly discovered Delta variant discovered in India to know that the delta thing evidently reduces Covid vaccine efficacy. This means there is a larger risk of infections and re-infections. Similarly, another study conducted by AIIMS and the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) in India corroborates the English inference. The Delta variant can infect people even if they are fully vaccinated with Covishield and Covaxin doses. The study also finds that the Delta variant is more vaccine-resistant than the Alpha variant.

Hopefully, this finding is defective and is manufactured to frighten unruly people everywhere. Because the latest report in hand says Indian vaccines are fantastic and fit enough to contain any covid virus. An American medical expert recently said that fully home-grown Covaxin can disempower any corona variant strain.

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# BJD, BJP spar over CM's photos at vaccination centres

## Saffron party demands PM's picture also

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Ruling BJD and opposition BJP have been at loggerheads over the use of only Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik's photos and not also of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's in the posters at Covid-19 vaccination centres almost across the State. On Wednesday, furious BJP workers in the presence of Union Minister Pratap Chandra Sarangi barged into the Gandhi Smruti Bhawan



vaccination centre in Baleswar and ransacked and removed

the posters and banners carrying photos of the Chief Minister.

On June 21, saffron party workers had gone to vaccination centres at different places in Rayagada, Baleswar and Angul districts opposing non-use of Modi's picture on the banners and posters.

Reacting over the issue, Bhubaneswar BJP MP Aparajita Sarangi, whose office had been sealed last year by the BMC authorities for flouting Covid-19 norms, took to Twitter and wrote, "Odisha failed to procure vaccines; it sought Central Govt's support. Our PM Narendra Modi has come to the rescue of Odisha CM. Basic courtesy

demands that PM Modi's photos with CM's photos are put up at all vaccination points by State Govt.

Height of insecurity & narrow mindedness!" Replying to Sarangi's tweet, Rajya Sabha BJD member Sasmit Patra said, "PM's photo is there on every Covid vaccination certificate. While every party made an issue out of it, BJD never made it an issue or politics over it. You are an ex-bureaucrat.

Vaccination in India has always been a national programme done by Central Government whether its polio, BCG, measles, DPT, Hepatitis, Vitamin A. When did it become a State programme, except now that it was forced

upon the States and subsequently withdrawn?" "CM's message has been put out across State calling for using masks, Covid-appropriate behavior; it is nothing about vaccination.

It is petty and shameful to do politics out of this. I am afraid you may be insecure about your political relevance and doing this narrow minded politics. However thanks for wearing masks off late," Patra added.

Commenting on the issue, a person who came to the vaccination centre to receive his jab said that while taxpayers' money goes in the process of vaccination, politicians are busy scoring some brownie points.

## INBRIEF

### BJP CELEBRATES YOGA DAY IN B'PUR



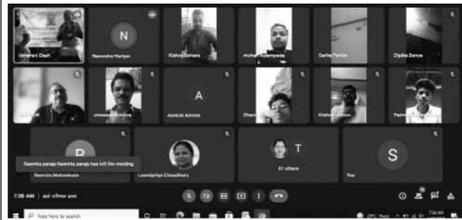
Brahmapur: The International Day of Yoga was celebrated at the BJP office here. A large number of party workers and office-bearers joined the event and performed yoga. Former Party district president Kanhu Charan Pati said India's yoga practice has achieved international recognition. Similar events were organised by the party workers at different Mandals, including in Gosaniuagaon, Old Berhampur, Kamapalli, Aska Road and Gate Bazar areas.

### EZCC CELEBRATES YOGA DAY IN KORAPUT



Koraput: The Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre (EZCC) celebrated the International Day of Yoga on Monday in Koraput in collaboration with a local theatre group Nandanik. A special programme was held at Nandanik premises. The programme was inaugurated by eminent poet Jaladhara Swain in presence of literary critic Narayan Panda and academic Dr Jhansi Singh. Yoga Guru Tanmay Pradhan demonstrated the vital asanas and explained its utility. The programme was coordinated Saumendra Swain and Monideepa Gupta.

### SUNABEDA WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOLDS YOGA DAY



Sunabeda: The International Day of Yoga was celebrated through virtual mode at the Sunabeda Degree Women's College. Students and staffs performed various yoga asanas and spoke about their impacts on health. The programme was inaugurated by Deputy Director Higher Education, Brahmapur Dr Laxmikant Tripathy. College Principal Usharani Dash coordinated the event.

## 5 minor boys rescued from train in R'kela, 1 held

PNS ■ ROURKELA

Five minor boys were rescued from South Bihar Express on Tuesday at Rourkela railway station by Government Railway Police while they were being taken by a broker to Raipur. All rescued boys are from Bihar. Police also detained broker and were further investigating into matter. Sources said, the GRP Rourkela received an input from their intelligence source that some minor boys are being trafficked in South Bihar Express train, following which a police team conducted raid at Rourkela station.

The GRP, Rourkela rescued five minor boys. The youth taken into custody was identified as Md Sabir Raja. The youth reportedly claimed that he was taking boys to Raipur with consent of their family members. "Five minor boys from South Bihar Express were rescued by us and we sent them to Childline office and informed development to Child Welfare Committee of district," said GRP Rourkela IIC Ranjan Pattnaik. "We are further probing matter," Pattnaik added.

## Samaiyar takes over as NTPC, Darlipali head

PNS ■ ROURKELA

Abhay Kumar Samaiyar has taken over charge of Head of Project at NTPC-Darlipali. Samaiyar has replaced Sunil Kumar Satya who has been appointed as Regional Executive Director for Eastern Region-II. Prior to this, Samaiyar was holding post of GM (O&M) at NTPC-Ramagundam Thermal Power Plant since August, 2020 and has played a determining role in various NTPC stations such as NTPC Ramagundam, NTPC Lara, NTPC Vallur, NTPC Vindhyaachal and Corporate Centre (Operation Services).

A BSc Engineering Graduate from Bhagalpur University, Bihar, Samaiyar joined NTPC as Engineering Executive Trainee (EET) in year 1987. Samiayar brings enormous experience of 34 years. He has gained expertise in Mechanical Maintenance, Plant Operation, Operation Services. At present, NTPC Darlipali is running with 800MW (Unit 1) and will soon commercialize its Unit 2 of 800MW.

## B'pur senior citizens' body holds Yoga Day

PNS ■ BRAHMAMPUR

The Hasa Yoga and Vyayam Kendra of Senior Citizens' Forum of Lanjipalli, Brahmapur celebrated the 7th International Day of Yoga in the premises of the Divine Life Society here on Monday. At the outset, the members performed some light aerobic exercises followed by light aasanas and pranayamas conducted under the direct supervision of life scientist and former Professor of Berhampur University Prof Bhaskar Pady. Yoga Guru Dr PK Pati emphasised on practice and importance of yoga on human health, while Prof Pady explained very con-

cept of Yoga and its essence. Dr Pati further said that yoga leads to merging of 'Aatma' (the owner of body) with 'Paramatma' (the creator of body). More than 30 members participated in the event following the Covid-19 protocols. Some active members of the club including former Sargent of IAF Ramesh Chandra Mohanty and artist-cum-photographer Satyabadi Maharana coordinated event. Among others, namely Biswanath Pady, Sibaram Panigrahi, Vyayam Guru, MK Misra, Manoj Behera, K Krishna Rao, Lokanath Brahma, A Madhab Patra, PK Panda, A Moharana and A Gouda participated in event.



## Prisoner's death triggers tension in Soro jail

### Kin say it is a murder case

PNS ■ BALESWAR

Tension erupted on Wednesday in Soro after an under-trial prisoner (UTP) lodged at the Soro Sub-Jail died under mysterious circumstances late on Tuesday night. The deceased was identified as Kamalakant Barik, a native of Aparipur of Bhadrak.

Reports said he was shifted to the nearby Community Healthcare Centre after detection of injury in his neck and eyes. However, he was declared received dead.

The family members of the deceased after receiving information reached the Soro sub jail and alleged that he was killed in the premises of the jail. They, besides lodging an FIR with the Soro police, also sat on dharna before the jail with a

five-point charter of demands. The deceased and his younger brother Dushasan Barik were lodged in Bhadrak jail since August last in connection with the death of the former's wife.

However, both of them recently had been shifted from Bhadrak jail as part of Covid decongestion measure in the jail. The family members also had alleged that the life of Dushasan was under danger in Soro jail and demanded his shifting to Bhadrak jail. They also had demanded transfer of Jailer Priyambada Panda.

Jail Superintendent Rishinath Nayak and Soro PS IIC Madhumita Mohanty began investigation into the incident.

Despite several attempts, contact with jailer Panda couldn't be established. The body of Barik had been sent for post-mortem. Notably, a few months ago, another under-trial prisoner had died at the Soro Sub-Jail.

## In Baleswar Former Class-IV staffer donates O2 concentrator

### Breaks his piggy box

UBACHAK MOHANTY ■ BALESWAR

A retired Class-IV employee donated an oxygen concentrator to the District Headquarters Hospital (DHH) for treatment of Covid patients. Balam Behera, a resident of Gopalgaon and retired employee of a women's college has procured an oxygen concentrator out of his own source of income and handed it over to Chief District Medical Officer Dulansen Jagdeo.

Behera known for his social services is an environmentalist too. He plants saplings round the year. In the post retirement period, he had saved a small amount of Rs 52,000 by cutting down his expenses on mobile recharge and petrol in a piggy box. After learning that patients were dying in the want of oxygen he broke it and found that

money was enough for a concentrator. Then he decided to procure one and donate same, he said. Behera, who advocates and propagates planting trees stressed that in schools students must plant saplings (at least 7) in a week and look after them. The present crisis for fresh oxygen would be mitigated to a large extent by plantation, he opined.

The noble gesture of Behera is appreciated here by everyone in town including CDMO. In meanwhile an over-

seas Odia organisation has donated three oxygen concentrators to DHH. The machines were handed over to CDMO in presence of district Collector. Association secretary Minakentan Mishra, Soubhagya Ranjan Mohanty, Nagendranath Samal, Satyasiba Das and many others were present during handing over of machines. NGO Breath India members Dr Tapati Panda and Dr Ranjan Subiha are coordinating donation of oxygen concentrators across India.



## Vendors to display vax certificate in shops in Ganjam

PNS ■ BRAHMAMPUR

As part of its preventive measures against Covid-19, the Ganjam district administration on Tuesday asked all shopkeepers and vendors and other retailers to display their vaccination certificates in front of their shops.

Collector Vijay Amruta Kulange said that the initiative would be helpful in checking transmission of the deadly virus and create confidence among customers. He further cautioned that enforcement personnel would keep a strict vigil on implementation of the order.

It may be mentioned that the Ganjam administration has been earning praises from different quarters for its effective Covid-19 management models. Last month, the district administration made Covid-19 test (Rapid Antigen) mandatory for bride, groom, their family members and other participants before the marriage.

## Will stop ore transportation, warns KTOA

PNS ■ CHAMPUA

The Keonjhar Truck Owners' Association (KTOA) has threatened to stop transporting of iron from Joda mining sector very soon. KTOA secretary Suryanarayan Kar (Dilu) said that in order to avoid a conflict between two groups of truck owners and ensuring smooth transporting, a decision was taken in past in a meeting in presence of the Collector, Keonjhar that loading would be given to trucks of Keonjhar and Joda owners in ratio of 60 : 40. But now it is alleged that trucks registered under KTOA are not given loading in that ratio, he said.

Kar further alleged that there is discrimination in rate of transporting. Where as Joda trucks are given transporting rate fixed by district administration but Keonjhar trucks are paid less. It is further alleged that transporting tokens available from Keonjhar quota are given to trucks from outside districts, ignoring Keonjhar trucks.

## JSPL organises inoculation drive in Angul unit

### To cover whole workforce

PNS ■ ANGUL

Continuing its fight against Covid-19, the Jindal Steel and Power Ltd (JSPL) has launched a vaccination drive at its Angul steel making facilities. The vaccination drive is expected to cover the company's employees and the entire work force along with their families.

Angul location head and Executive Director of JSPL Hridayeshwar Jha said, "From supplying medical oxygen to various hospital in the country and setting up a Covid Care Centre to feeding the needy and vulnerable, we at the JSPL are committed to support the Government and community in the fight against the global pandemic. This mass vaccination drive would also further strengthen our fight to defeat Covid pandemic." The JSPL



has set up vaccination centres at different locations of steel plant and its township area. JSPL has procured required vaccine for its employee and its workers. People from 18-44 age group took vaccine as per Government guidelines.

The persons those who are eligible to get their 2nd shot are also being vaccinated at their respective vaccination points. It has been made mandatory for everyone to register through CO-WIN app only.

## Section 144 clamped in Baladevjew temple

### To prevent gathering on Snan Purnima

PNS ■ KENDRAPADA

Devotees were restricted this year too to have a glimpse of the Trinity at the Snan Mandap (bathing altar) from outside the Baladevjew temple as the district administration clamped Section 144 CrP outside the temple premises and Rath Danda from 7 pm on Wednesday till 6 am of June 26.

Sub-Collector Niranjan Behera, on Wednesday pro-mulgated Section 144 CrP with an aim to restrain general public from congregating in and around a radius of 500 meters of the Baladevjew temple and the whole patch of Ratha Danda at Ichhapur.

According to Behera, the measure was taken to prevent gathering of people in the ongoing Covid pandemic time and spread of infection.

# Let Govt offset education loss during Covid

## By coming out with a recovery plan



LALIT MOHAN MISHRA

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (UNSDG) -11 which aims to achieve sustainable cities and communities by 2030 focuses under its target No-5 on significant reduction in loss of lives, size of affected people and loss of economy due to disasters. The Covid-19 pandemic has emerged as an unprecedented biological disaster. The Government of India has imposed the National Disaster Management Act 2005 in the country to manage the pandemic. By doing so, the Indian

Government has accepted the Covid19 pandemic as a disaster. The Act empowers the Union Government to take over the administration of the country just like that occurs during the imposition of National Emergencies under Indian Constitution. This stringent Act is needed to manage a pandemic of national magnitude. Some other nations have also imposed their national emergency law.

However, this situation should not prevail for longer and normal democratic governance should return. The Union Government must complete the disaster management work sooner by building the recovery and risk-mitigation capacity of the stakeholders and revoke the Disaster Management Act. The disaster management cycle has four phases such as the prevention and risk mitigation planning and its implementation phase before the disaster, prepared-

ness planning and its implementation phase before the disaster, disaster-intervention phase through rescue and relief activities during the disaster and finally the disaster-rehabilitation phase, after the disaster.

As the Covid-19 pandemic is a new biological disaster, there was no mitigation and preparedness plan in the country when it struck us. But next time, the nation should not suffer. The National Disaster Management Act calls for preparation of a National Plan on disaster management.

On the basis of the current experience, the Government of India must come up with a national Covid-19 and other biological disaster risk-mitigation plan, along with plans for creation of necessary institutions for research, warning dissemination, drugs and machinery production, capacity building, stakeholder collaboration, identification of

vulnerable communities and zones, international collaboration and so on. This will drastically reduce the impact of such disasters in future and make the country resilient to biological-hazards. The second phase of Covid-19 disaster management was the intervention phase by the Government.

The national and the State Governments intervened as the pandemic hit the nation. The methods included cutting off the infection chain by imposing lockdown and shutdown, creating containment zones, curbing social gatherings, enforcing use of sanitation and protective gears, providing healthcare and medicines, undertaking research, issuing time to time warnings and providing vaccination. The vulnerable people, like the poor, the street vendors, the migrant labourers, the children, the existing beneficiaries of the social security schemes

and so on were provided with food, ration, pensions and ex-gratia. This phase is continuing as Covid19 second wave is still in existence. The country must enter now into the first and second Covid-19 damage recovery phase with simultaneous preparation for confronting the possible third and fourth waves.

Just like the State and the Centre prepare a damage assessment report and come out with a disaster recovery plan after a natural disaster, with allocation of necessary finance, similarly, the State and the Union Governments must assess the damage due to yearlong Covid19 pandemic in different sectors and prepare a Covid-19-integrated recovery plan at the State and national level.

The Covid19 pandemic has caused damage to life, economy, livelihood, and education of the children, justice delivery system, and time-bound public service delivery system, social and family life and so on. There are areas

where financial assistance is required for recovery. One such area is the economy-cum-livelihood sector where the Government should assess the damage and extend financial assistance for recovery. The Union and State Governments have done something though more is needed.

There must be concrete planning for the recovery of primary, secondary and tertiary sectors and informal sector of economy, based on damage assessment. The second area where financial and structural attention is needed is the education sector. During a natural disaster, the disruption in education of children occurs for short-duration, but under the spell of Covid19, the education system has been paralysed for more than a year.

The academic year 2020-21 has elapsed without syllabus-teaching as many students don't have access to digital system to attend virtual classes. Examinations could not be held. Now it is feared that half of the academic year 2021-22

shall pass away without resumption of regular classes due to the third wave. There should be an urgent education recovery plan for the students from sixth standard to the higher secondary level, so that they can appear the year-ending examinations in 2022. As education is in the Concurrent List, either the Union or the State Government or both can make policy changes and formulate the Covid19 educational recovery plan.

However, the Union Government should lead this educational recovery plan as part of the National Education Policy 2020. The only teaching-learning medium available is the combination of online and off-line processes.

As a first step, a condensed syllabus has to be created for the students from sixth standard to the higher-secondary level, called the Covid19 capsule syllabus, where the syllabus of two academic years (2020-21 and 2021-22) shall be merged into one year syllabus (say 100 hours per subject) for each

class. The study materials should be produced or redesigned in digital mode urgently for the online teaching system, while the books will be published for offline study to come out later.

The TV channels can be partnered to broadcast the contents at a stipulated time, apart from schools using teaching apps. The Government should provide each student with a good quality mobile phone with necessary locking-system to prevent misuse. The Central Government under its digital-India programme, must complete urgently the digitalisation process of all Gram Panchayats and schools.

Parenting-training can be imparted through digital avenue. Unless urgent steps are taken, we shall have a permanently disaster-hit and educationally-crippled children who shall suffer in their life.

(The writer is a freelance journalist and a columnist. Phone: 9439178588)

# Follow Covid norms to blunt 3rd wave: Govt

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Government on Wednesday strongly felt that the number of cases in the third wave will not be to the extent that the health system comes under strain if people religiously followed Covid appropriate behaviour (CAB) and States wisely implemented containment strategies.

"At least 2.2 per cent of India's population has been affected by the disease so far. This should also make us wary of protecting the still vulnerable or susceptible 97 per cent population. We cannot let our guards down, hence, continued focus on containment is critical," Union Health Ministry Joint Secretary Lav Agarwal said at a media workshop organised by UNICEF in partnership with the Ministry on the need to bust myths about vaccines and vaccination and reinforce the importance of CAB.

"If we keep following containment and Covid appropriate behavior, then the third wave, even if it comes, will not have the number of cases that

## 'If vaccinated, you are protected for next 6/9 months from virus'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

If you have been vaccinated then likely chances are that you are protected from the coronavirus for the next six-nine months. This was stated by senior Union Health Ministry official Veena Dhawan at an event here.

She also said there was no evidence that supports interchangeability of vaccines' brands.

Responding to a question on the effectiveness of cocktail vaccines or mixing different vaccine doses, senior ministry official Veena Dhawan said as per the evidence available, the vaccines are not "interchangeable".

"A full analysis is yet to be made on the subject. Cocktail vaccination is not to be followed and we should take the same doses of the vaccine," she stressed.

On Adverse Event Following Immunisation (AEFI), Dhawan said the first 30 minutes post vaccination are crucial.

"That is why people are

kept under observation. Serious or severe side effects are mostly seen in the first 30 minutes," she added.

Employment was also held virtually. G20 Ministers exchanged views on transitions from school to work. Sanjay Dhotre represented Ministry of Education in the meeting. Ministry of Labour and Employment was represented by MoS (Independent Charge) Santosh Gangwar.

"The member countries of G20, recognise the need to equip our youth well for a smooth transition into the workspace after completing their education.

This is especially important for learners from socially and economically disadvantaged population groups, who are more at risk of being left behind," said Dhotre.

# On day 3, Covid jab numbers remain less than day one figures

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Countrywide Covid-19 vaccination numbers continued to remain less than the day one figures. On Wednesday, the tally stood at 58.34 lakh vaccine doses till 7 pm in the evening as per the Union Health Ministry statement.

This is much less when compared to the first day of the revised phase of vaccination drive launched from June 21 when the country reported a record number of over 84 lakh shots administered to the citizens. On Tuesday also, the vaccination process covered only around 51 lakh people in the country.

"More than seven crore vaccine doses have been registered so far for those in the age group 18-44 so far," said the statement.

Overall the cumulative Covid vaccination coverage of the country crossed 30 crore (30,09,69,538), as per the 7 pm provisional report. At

least, 41,23,073 vaccine doses were administered as first dose and 68,903 vaccine doses given as second dose in the age group 18-44 years on Wednesday.

"Cumulatively, 7,02,11,075 persons across 37 States/UTs have received their first dose and a total 14,98,113 have received their second dose since the start of Phase-3 of the vaccination drive."

Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have administered more than 10 lakh beneficiaries of the age group 18-44 years for the first dose of Covid vaccine, so far, said the statement.

Talking about the infection rate, the statement said that India has reported 50,848 new cases in the last 24 hours.

# ED seizes Unitech's land parcels, ₹81.10 cr in money laundering case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has provisionally attached 101 land parcels and one helicopter worth ₹81.10 crore in a money laundering probe against the Unitech Group.

The attached land parcels are situated in Santacruz, Mumbai and are owned by the Shivalik Group. The helicopter is owned by King Rotors Air Charters Pvt Ltd., an associate company of Shivalik Group.

The ED probe revealed that Unitech Group had diverted 'Proceeds of Crime' to the tune of ₹574 crore to the Shivalik Group and in turn, the entities of Shivalik Group had purchased the land parcels and helicopter from this.

On March 4, the ED had conducted searches at 35 locations in NCR and Mumbai on the premises of Shivalik Group, Trikar Group, Unitech Group and Carnoustie Group.

"After analysis of seized records followed by the disclosures of various persons, the above diversion of Proceeds of Crime has been unearthed," the agency said.



# 3 fashion designers summoned to explain cash payments by leader

New Delhi: Famous fashion designers Manish Malhotra, Sabyasachi Mukherjee and Ritu Kumar have been asked by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to appear before it to record their statements in connection with some cash payments made to them a few years ago by a politician in Punjab.

An ED source related to the probe told IANS, "A notice has been sent to the three fashion designers to appear before the ED."

The source said that the three designers were paid in

cash by the politician for designing the dresses for a wedding ceremony a few years back. "And there was no record of the cash transaction in their IT returns.

So they have been called to present their side," the source said. However, the source did not name the politician.

Malhotra, Mukherjee and Kumar are known for their designer collection in India as well as in other countries. Many corporates and Bollywood personalities wear dresses designed by them.

IANS

# 'NEP 2020 committed to equitable education to all'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Wednesday at the G20 Education Ministers' meeting said that the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, envisages equitable and inclusive education for all, with special focus on children and youth, especially girls, from socially and economically disadvantaged groups who are more at risk of being left behind.

"NEP 2020 provides for early vocational exposure in middle and secondary school along with smooth integration into mainstream education. It aims that by 2025, at least 50 per cent of learners in the school and higher education system would have expo-

sure to vocational education. It also provides for vocational education to be aligned to skill gap analysis and mapping of local opportunities," said Minister of State for Education Sanjay Dhotre at the virtual conference of G20.

India attaches great importance to the collaboration between G20 countries in the field of vocational education and training.

Dhotre reaffirmed the support of the Government of India to the collective efforts of the G-20 countries to develop strategies to ensure smooth transition from education to work.

A joint Meeting of Ministers of Education and Ministers of Labour and

Employment was also held virtually. G20 Ministers exchanged views on transitions from school to work. Sanjay Dhotre represented Ministry of Education in the meeting. Ministry of Labour and Employment was represented by MoS (Independent Charge) Santosh Gangwar.

"The member countries of G20, recognise the need to equip our youth well for a smooth transition into the workspace after completing their education.

This is especially important for learners from socially and economically disadvantaged population groups, who are more at risk of being left behind," said Dhotre.

# Ramdev moves SC, seeks stay on proceedings in cases

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Yoga guru Baba Ramdev on Wednesday approached the Supreme Court seeking a stay on the proceedings in multiple cases lodged against him in various States over his remarks on apathy and its treatment protocol for Covid-19.

In his petition, Ramdev sought the quashing of many FIRs lodged by Indian Medical Association (IMA) in Patna and Raipur branches and asked for a transfer of the FIRs to a Delhi court.

Ramdev has been booked under Sections 188 (disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant), 269 (negligent act likely to spread infection of disease dangerous to life), 504 (intentional insult



with intent to provoke breach of the peace) and other provisions of Disaster Management Act, 2005 in many States based on the complaints by IMA chapters.

As per the IMA complaint, since over the last one year, Ramdev has allegedly been propagating false information on social media against medicated being used by the medical fraternity, Government of India, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and other frontline organisations in treatment of Coronavirus infection.

# Nadda hails Modi for fulfilling Mookerjee's goal of 'national integration'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

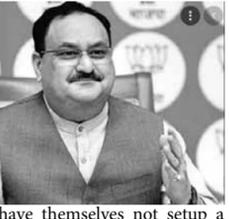
Accusing the Nehru-led Congress Government of "ignoring" the demand for a probe into the death of Bharatiya Jan Sangh (BJS) founder Syama Prasad Mookerjee in Kashmir while demanding the removal of Article 370, BJP president J P Nadda on Wednesday complimented Prime Minister Narendra Modi for fulfilling Mookerjee's goal of 'national integration' by abrogating the special status to Jammu & Kashmir.

A day before the all party meet on J & K called by the Prime Minister, the BJP president said Mookerjee agitated against 'ek desh main do vidhan, do Pradhan and do nishan' system and removal of Articles 370 and 35 A. These aims of Mookerjee, he said, have been achieved by the Modi-government.

Mookerjee died in police custody in Kashmir on June 23, 1953 while protesting against the requirement of a permit for entry to the Kashmir valley.

Nadda said Mookerjee's mother had written to Nehru seeking a probe into the death of the BJS founder but the Congress government "ignored and pushed it under the carpet".

However, successive BJP governments at the Centre



have themselves not setup a probe leading to his death in Kashmir valley.

The BJP president said Mookerjee had died in "doubtful circumstances".

While paying tributes to the late leader who, he said, sacrificed his entire life for the nation, the BJP President said national integration as sought by Mookerjee was realised by Modi's "strong willpower" and Union Home Minister Amit Shah's "skilled strategy".

Modi led BJP leaders' tributes to the BJS ideologue on his 68th death anniversary.

"Remembering Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee on his Punya Tithi. His noble ideals, rich thoughts and commitment to serve people will continue to inspire us. His efforts towards national integration will never be forgotten, Modi tweeted.

Home Minister Amit Shah said Mookerjee sacrificed himself to safeguard India's identity and integrity, and saved the country from another division.

# LPG can now be booked through CSC

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

To make it more accessible to every rural household, a new LPG connection can now be booked through the Common Service Centre (CSC). The CSC has taken the lead in helping Centre's Ujjwala beneficiaries in bookings for the refills.

Ujjwala scheme is one of the flagship programmes of the Modi Government to provide LPG gas connection to women of rural areas and especially to those from the weaker section of the society.

Linking the Ujjwala beneficiaries and also new connections through CSC digital kiosk can serve consumers close to their place of residence. CSC has so far done online booking for one crore Ujjwala beneficiaries.

"We have requested Oil companies to enable other support services through CSC as change in name, address, request for additional cylinder etc. Booking for new connection through CSC is still to be allowed by the oil companies through CSC and once these services are extended, CSC can provide all services to Ujjwala beneficiaries in villages," said CSC MD Dr Dinesh Kumar Tyagi.

Though the connection was provided by the government to women, however, refilling due to logistics still remained a concern. Many factors constrained the increase in delivery centres close to the place of residence.

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**NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given Pursuant to Regulation 29 & 47 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosures Requirements) Regulation, 2015, that a meeting of Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 at the Monnet House, 11, Masjid Moh, Greater Kailash-II, New Delhi-110048, inter-alia, to consider and approve the Audited Financial Results of the Company for the Quarter and financial year ended on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2021. This information is also available on the website of the Company (www.monnetgroup.com) and on the website of the Stock Exchange. (www.bseindia.com)

By order of the Board of Directors  
**MONIND LIMITED**  
(Formerly Known as Monnet Industries Limited)  
Dated : 23.06.2021  
Place : New Delhi  
Priya  
Company Secretary

# 204 lakh tonnes of foodgrains to be distributed among poor amid looming third wave

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In view of the anticipated third wave of Covid-19 that is expected in 6 to 8 weeks, the Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved allocation of 204 lakh tonnes of foodgrains at an estimated cost of ₹67,266 crore for extending the Pradhan Mantri Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) to provide free ration to over 80 crore people, mostly poor, by five more months till November-

end. The free supply of grains will ameliorate the hardships faced by the poor due to economic disruption caused by the coronavirus, an official statement said.

Health experts have alerted state governments about the third wave of pandemic and have advised ramping up of the health facilities.

The approved monthly allocation of five kg foodgrains per person to 81.5 crore beneficiaries covered under the National Food Security Act is for five more months between July and November this year. The second phase of PMGKAY was launched for May and June as the second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic hit the country.

The sanction of around 204 lakh tonnes of additional foodgrains free of cost would entail an estimated food subsidy of ₹64,031 crore. As the Centre would bear the entire expenditure towards this scheme without involving States and UTs, an additional expenditure of about Rs 3,234.85 crore would be required for meeting the transportation and handling charges, as well as FPS dealers' margins, taking the total cost to ₹67,266.44 crore, an official statement said.

Early this month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi while addressing the nation had announced that the Centre's free food programme PMGKAY will be extended for five months till Diwali.

# Wearing mask compliance still low in country despite being worst hit: Survey



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Mask wearing compliance still remains low in India despite it being one of the worst hit by the second wave of Covid-19, according to findings of a survey.

The mask compliance at vaccination centres also remains low, as per the survey conducted by online social media platform LocalCircles.

"Despite the most lethal Covid-19 wave that any country in the world has experienced so far, India's mask compliance is still low as indicated by the survey finding where 67 per cent of citizens say there is limited or no mask compliance in their area, district, or city," it said. The survey received over 33,000 responses from citizens located in 312 districts of the country.

According to the survey findings, only 32 per cent of citizens in the survey note that there was limited mask compliance at the vaccination centre they recently visited.

Many respondents noted that their family members have gotten Covid-19 a few days after receiving vaccination at centres, citing the high possibility of some vaccination centres being superspreaders as some people were not even following masking protocols.

It is a major concern that requires an immediate action to make sure that such centres do not become superspreaders, as per the findings of the survey.

The survey tried to find out how people in cities and districts, including at the vaccination centres, are complying with wearing a face mask.

It also sought to find out if

people are wearing the right masks that give them protection, or are they wearing any mask just for the sake of it. Lastly, the survey sought to gather citizens' pulse if the state governments should make the wearing of masks outside home mandatory in districts with active Covid-19 cases.

It found that only 44 per cent of the Indians were wearing cloth masks which may not provide them with the needed protection against the highly transmissible variants like Delta.

The findings of the survey indicate that one in two Indians were wearing cloth masks that provide limited protection from Covid, it added.

Many Indians since 2020 have been using cloth masks, some even using ones made at home, assuming that they will provide the necessary protection from Covid-19 while that may not be the case with the new Delta variant, it said.

On the question whether the state governments should make wearing of masks outside home mandatory if a district has any covered cases, 91 per cent of the respondents okayed the proposal while 8 per cent decided against it.

**New Okhla Industrial Development Authority**  
Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, G.B. Nagar (U.P.)  
Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com

**E-TENDER NOTICE**  
E-Tenders are invited from firms/contractors registered with UPLC Lucknow for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com & http://etender.up.nic.in. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

(A)	1.	01/NOIDA/GM/SM(WC-9)/ET/2021-22, Name of Work- D/o Village (Basic & Infrastructure Facilities in Primary & Junior High School in Village Under Work Circle-9), Noida. Cost - Rs. 47.06 Lacs.
	2.	01/GM/SM(WC-4)/ET/2021-22, Name of Work- M/o Village (Necessary work in Parishadiy School Under Operation Kayakalp in Work Circle-4 Area), Noida. Cost - Rs. 33.78 Lacs.
	3.	02/CGM/SM(WC-1)/2021-22, Name of Work- C/o Required work in Primary and Junior High School in Village - Nayabans and Sector-11, 12 under Operation Kayakalp), Noida. Cost - Rs. 33.58 Lacs.

Which can be uploaded by date 05.07.2021 upto 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date 06.07.2021 at 11.00 AM

General Manager  
NOIDA

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**UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LIMITED**  
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**E-TENDER NOTICE (NIT)**  
TENDER SPECIFICATION NO. CCP-II/5/2021-2022

Uttarakhand Power Corporation Ltd., Dehradun invites e-tender for following turnkey work:

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Quantity (Km.)	Estimated Cost (₹)	MAAT for best three years out of last five financial years (in ₹)	Earnest Money (₹)	Cost of tender document including GST (₹)
1.	Construction of 33 kV line from 33/11 kV S/s Dwarahat to SPV Plant at Vill-Chhanagolu for power evacuation under block Dwarahat, Distt. Almora	3.5	1.359 CRORE	2.72 CRORE	2.72 LAKH	11 800
	Construction of 33 kV line from SPV Plant Mahantgaon to SPV Plant Rastogi Green for power evacuation under block Dwarahat, Distt. Almora	1.5				

Date & time of Prebid conference in online mode: 05.07.2021 at 12:00 Hrs.

Last Date & Time of online request for Tender and submission of tender in online & off line mode: 22.07.2021 upto 17:00 Hrs.

Date of opening of Part-I of tender in online & off line mode: 23.07.2021 at 15:30 Hrs.

For further details, please visit our website www.uktenders.gov.in

Superintending Engineer  
No.: 249/EIE(CM)/UPCLA-2 Date: 22.06.2021  
Corporate (Contract & Procurement-II)

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Pay Electricity Bill Online 24x7 from www.upcl.org (For Information on Electricity theft, Informer may report to Toll Free No. 1800 180 4185 / Fax No. 0135-2760911)

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE: Builder Cancellation**  
This is to bring to your notice that ZAFAR NAWAZ ALI KHAN/ SAIMA KHAIRY (borrowers) has availed Home loan facility vide facility agreement number LBGUR00002438557 located at Flat No 502, 5th Floor, Tower 5, Pyramid Urban Homes, Sec 70A, GURGAON. The borrower/s has failed to pay the contractual amount to the builder as per the terms and conditions of the agreement.

The Bank had informed the same to the borrower through letter dated June 19, 2021 informing that PYRAMID URBAN HOMES has cancelled the allotment of the above mentioned property. You are therefore requested to resolve this matter with the builder within 7 days from the date of this publication.

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

Dated: June 24, 2021  
Place: Delhi/ NCR  
For ICICI Bank Limited  
Sd-

# BJP leaders to ensure vax, food in UP villages

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Embracing the motto of 'Sewa hi sangathan', the BJP has decided to send party workers, leaders and lawmakers to villages and ensure vaccination of local residents and to distribute rations among the needy. In the two-day meeting of the national BJP leaders with Ministers, the RSS and party workers, that ended on Tuesday, the BJP decided to contest the election under the leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.



Starting on the death anniversary of Jan Sangh founder Shyama Prasad Mukherjee on Wednesday, the fortnight-long programme will continue till his birth anniversary on July 6. As per the party's strategy, workers will reach every vaccination booth and set up a help desk to assist people. On June 25, they will go for a mega plantation drive to achieve a record breaking target of planting 30 crore saplings.

On June 27, BJP leaders will stay at every booth to listen to PM's 'Mann Ki Baat' and connect the public with the Central and State welfare schemes.

Earlier, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath asked all his Ministers to camp at every block from June 21 and inspect development and welfare works of the government and solve the problems of the people, if any. The ministers have already started camping in the blocks. BJP in-charge Radha Mohan Singh held a meeting with booth workers of booth number 292 and exhorted them to work for the welfare of the people and gave the slogan 'booth jeeta to sab jeeta'.

"The booth is the first step towards the victory of the party. If you can win the booth, you can win the election," Singh told workers. He also talked about the UP government's achievements and asked the workers to spread the good work done by the government.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, along with his Ministerial colleagues, paid floral tributes to founder of Jana Sangh Shyama Prasad Mukherjee at Civil Hospital on Wednesday.

# After MPs, BJP MLAs too seek separate State in Bengal

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

After BJP MPs Soumitra Khan and John Barla it is now the turn of the saffron party MLAs to make demands for a separate State.

BJP MLAs from Dabgram-Fulbari and Naxalbari-Matigara Sikha Chatterjee and Ananda Roy Burman have raised their voices for a separate State comprising the North Bengal districts. Both Dabgram-Gulbari and Naxalbari-Matigara are the satellite townships of Siliguri — the largest city in North Bengal which is also called the gateway to the North East.

Backing Barla the BJP's Alipurduar MP, Chatterjee on Wednesday said that "neither the Left nor the Trinamool Congress Government have taken any measure to develop the backward regions of North Bengal and its people ... so the only way development can be achieved in North Bengal is by making a separate State here. ... If anyone raises a voice for a separate State it is

well within one's rights to do so because everyone has a right to develop in a democracy and our constitution declares that India is a democratic country of which we are the free citizens."

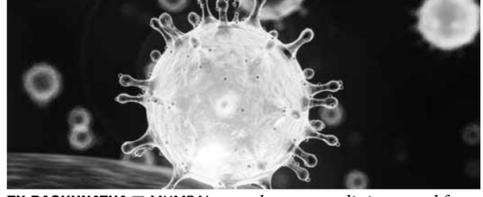
Roy Burman too backed Barla saying "the Alipurduar MP has done the right thing by demanding a separate State because from our long experience we have seen that the Government from Kolkata only takes care of the southern part of the State and leaves the northern part to starving State ... this cannot go on for long and the local people are gradually awakening to their cause of a separate State which is the only way through which their all-round development can be achieved."

Curiously Barla continued to raise his demands for a separate State the way he did before the BJP State president Dilip Ghosh rejected views that the saffron party had anything to do with such demands. "It is his private statement and the BJP has got nothing to do with it ...

maybe such leaders are making such statements out of frustration after seeing their workers being battered and their properties looted every day."

Refusing to withdraw his demand for separate State despite his party's "declared stance" against it and partly buttressing the argument of Ghosh the Alipurduar MP on Wednesday said "what else can I do as a BJP MP ... I am seeing the people of my party being hounded out by the Bangladeshi supporters of the Trinamool Congress ... here are several families who have come from Assam border in Cooch Behar district ... they have fled for their lives ... their properties have been looted by the Bangladeshi Trinamool men ... these are the sons and daughters of the soil and are being attacked by the foreign intruders backed by the ruling party ... this cannot be tolerated and so I have no other way but to raise my voice for a separate State ... I will take it to the Governor of Bengal and even New Delhi!"

# Maha logs 10,066 new cases, 508 deaths



TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

With not much of a change in the Covid-19 situation, Maharashtra logged 10,066 fresh infections and 508 deaths, even as 11,032 patients were discharged after full recovery from various hospitals in the State.

In a significant development, Maharashtra achieved a milestone as it crossed four crore Covid-19 tests. Of the 4,01,28,355 samples sent to various laboratories across the State so far, 59,97,587 have tested positive (15.01 per cent) for Covid-19 until Wednesday.

A day after the State recorded 9,043 infections and 482 deaths, the daily infections rose by 1043, while the deaths increased marginally by 26.

Of the total 508 deaths reported on Wednesday, 163 were new fatalities, while the remaining 345 were "old and unaccounted deaths" which have been added to the State's Covid-19 tally as part of the ongoing reconciliation process.

With 508 deaths, the Covid-19 toll in the state jumped from 1,18,785 to 1,19,303.

With 10,066 fresh infections, the total infections in the state rose from 59,87,521 to 59,97,587.

As 11,032 patients were discharged from the hospitals across the State after full recovery, the total number of people discharged from the hospitals since the second week of March last year increased from 57,42,258 to 57,53,290. The recovery rate in the state rose from 95.90 per cent to 95.93 per cent.

The total "active cases" in the state dropped from 1,23,340 to 1,21,859. The fatality rate in the state rose from 1.98 per cent to 1.99 per cent.

Mumbai recorded 23 deaths and 863 infections. As a result, the Covid-19 toll in

the metropolis increased from 15,315 to 15,338, while the infected cases in Mumbai went up from 7,21,099 to 7,21,963.

Mumbai with 18,711 cases emerged as the first in the State in terms of maximum number of "active cases" in the state, while Pune with 17,378 stood second, followed by Thane (13,059), Sangli (9543), Kolhapur (9142), Satara (7061), Ratnagiri (5615), Sindhudurg (5504) and Raigad (4571).

Currently, 6,58,863 people are in home quarantine while 4,196 people are in institutional quarantine.

# 6,02,163 people vaccinated in a day in State

PNS ■ MUMBAI

As many as 6,02,163 people were administered Covid-19 doses across Maharashtra on Wednesday, in what was described as the highest-ever number of vaccinations performed in the State.

Announcing this, State Additional Chief Secretary (Health) Dr. Pradip Vyas said: "Today we have bettered the performance of yesterday and have administered the highest ever number of Covid-19 vaccination doses in a single day in the State. As many as 6,02,163 doses were administered till 7 PM and the figure is likely to increase further".

Vyas went on to congratulate the district health authorities across the State. "Great work done by the district teams. Congratulations to all District teams," he said.

# Kerala is not a safe place for women: Prof

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Late VKN, who enlightened Malayalam readers with his humorous stories and novels had described Kerala as a land of 'Poricha Vadhu' (Malayalam for Fried Brides). This was not to pepper his story with hilarity that VKN made use of this term.

The bursting of kerosene stoves and the immolation of newly-wed brides were routine events in Kerala's social life.

The last three days saw Vismaya, a final year BAMS student who was married off to an assistant motor vehicle inspector, dead in her husband's house allegedly as a result of physical and mental torture, Kiran, her husband, had demanded a limousine, 100 sovereigns and a 120 cents plot of land (worth ₹2 crore in local real estate market) to tie the nuptial knot. After two months of marriage, the bridegroom expressed his displeasure with the brand new Toyota Corolla car which was given by Vismaya's father Thrivikraman as dowry.

for her because of the physical assaults carried out by Kiran, his mother and sister. On Monday morning she was found dead under mysterious circumstances in her husband's house. My daughter would not commit suicide. She had great dreams. She dreamt of becoming an Ayurvedic doctor, specialize in Indian system of medicine and serve the poor," Thrivikraman told *The Pioneer*.

Kiran and his family members assaulted Vismaya non-stop during the last three days of her life. The young lady had sent pictures of the injuries on her body to her brother along with the threatening words used by the husband. The 30 year old husband is heard telling Vismaya that he was not happy with the car given by her father and insisted that she ask her family members for a luxury car. "I am a Government officer and deserve more than this," were his catchwords throughout the two months-long ordeal.

Archana (24) at Thiruvananthapuram succumbed to burns she suffered

on late Monday night at her husband Suresh's house. A nursing graduate, Archana was confined to her in-law's house after the marriage and her husband was tormenting her parents for ₹3 lakh since the wedding function was over. According to neighbours, Suresh always stored diesel in the house since his marriage for reasons known only to him.

On Tuesday evening Suchitra (19) was found dead, hanging in her husband's house. Suchitra's wedding was solemnised on March 21 with Vishnu, a Government employee working in Uttarakhand. Sunil, father of Suchitra, told media that there was no possibility or reason for his daughter resorting to the extreme measure. The Police is yet to disclose anything about the death of Suchitra.

The Kerala State Crime Records Bureau in its report has stated that 65 brides were found murdered/dead under mysterious circumstances in the State during 2020-21. "The list is endless and we take note of these only deaths only if there is some sensational news

behind the deaths. Last year, Kerala men set new trends in how to murder young wives. Uthara, a young wife got killed in snake bite. Investigation revealed that her husband got her bitten by a deadly cobra to get rid of her after the honeymoon," said Prof V T Rema, women's activist and former principal of Government Arts College, Palakkadu.

She said though there were laws, the investigating agencies do not pursue the murders/deaths because of lethargy and inherent weaknesses.

"Kerala is not a safe place for women or girls. These heart-rending events prove beyond doubt that parents of girls should be vigilante against prospective bridegrooms," said the professor, known for her knowledge in philosophy.

At the time of going to Press, a widow whose daughter Priyanka was found dead in her house at Thiruvananthapuram following physical assault by her husband Unni Rajan Dev, son of late Malayalam film artist Rajan P Dev.

# 6,596 new cases in TN



People wait to receive the token for the Covid-19 vaccine at the Ramanathapuram healthcare centre in Coimbatore on Wednesday PTI

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

There has been reasonable improvement in Tamil Nadu's relentless war against Covid-19, according to the release issued by the Directorate of Health and Preventive Medicine on Wednesday evening.

The State logged 6,596 new cases on Wednesday while the death toll of the last 24 hours showed 166 casualties. Both the new cases and fatalities were lesser than that of Tuesday which showed 6,895 and 194 respectively.

There were 52,884 patients undergoing treatment for the pandemic across the State as on Wednesday evening. The State

has not lowered its guard in testing people for the disease. More than 1.66 lakh persons were tested across the State while 10,432 persons came out of hospitals fully cured and rejuvenated, said the release. The death toll till date reached 31,746 while the number of laboratories with Covid-19 testing facilities shot up to 273.

Situation in the districts of Coimbatore, Erode and Tirupur (the industrial hub of the State) has improved. While Coimbatore which had topped the table of districts with highest number of Covid-19 cases showed 793 (the highest in Tamil Nadu), the districts of Erode (686) and Tirupur (419) recorded a dip in the number of new cases.

# Pakistani smuggler killed as BSF foils narcotics smuggling bid in J&K

PNS ■ JAMMU

A narcotics smuggler was neutralised immediately after one of the alert jawans of the Border Security Force (BSF) unearthed a sinister plot to smuggle narcotics worth ₹135 crore from the Hiranagar sector of Kathua district early on Wednesday morning.

The smugglers were apparently provided logistics support by the Pakistani rangers to smuggle the huge consignment weighing 27 kgs inside the Indian territory.

According to a BSF spokesman, "During the wee hours, a vigilant BSF troop thwarted a drug smuggling attempt by Pakistani smugglers on the Kathua border and seized about 27 kgs of heroin."

IG BSF Jammu Frontier NS Jamwal, who visited the location along the International Border (IB) told reporters that border troopers deployed near one of



the border outpost in Hira Nagar sector noticed some suspicious movement on IB from the Pakistan side and alerted its men. When the Pakistani smugglers came closer to the IB, they were challenged and fired upon.

"During a search of the area, the body of a Pakistani smuggler and 27 packets of heroin were found near the fence," said IG BSF. "We have gathered all the material evidence and soon we will lodge a strong protest with our Pakistani counterparts", he added.

# NCB arrests Dawood's brother Kaskar

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Incarcerated Mohammed Rizwan Iqbal Hasan Shaikh Ibrahim Kaskar, younger brother of Karachi-based underworld Dawood Ibrahim Kaskar, was on Wednesday arrested by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) in connection with a drug-related case.

Armed with a production warrant, the NCB picked up Iqbal Kaskar from the Thane prison — where has been lodged for the past five years and taken to the NCB headquarters here for questioning. After several hours of questioning, Kaskar was placed under arrest by the NCB.

Kaskar's name had cropped during the interrogations of the several accused arrested in connection with the seizure of drugs made in central Mumbai.

Among other cases, the name of Kaskar, who is suspected of running his brother Dawood's realty empire and other businesses in Mumbai for the past couple of decades or so, figured in connection with the recent seizure of 15 kgs of Cannabis which was sent from Kashmir to Mumbai.

It may be recalled that on July 17, 2019, then 30-year-old Iqbal Kaskar and two of his aides were arrested by the Mumbai police in connection with extor-

tion-cum-organised crime.

Kaskar was arrested at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport here on Wednesday night, while his wife was trying to flee to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Based on the information provided by Rizwan Kaskar, the police had arrested two of his aides Ahmedraja Afroz Wadharia (24) and Ashfaq Rafique Towelwala (34) in connection with the same extortion-cum-organised crime case.

All the three arrested gangsters were allegedly involved in organised crime. Initial investigations have revealed that the three gangsters had handed extortion threats to several businessmen in the city.

Rizwan Kaskar's arrest was a fallout of the arrest and interrogation of Dawood's gang member Fahim Machmach, in an extortion case.

Machmach was arrested at the city international airport when he returned from Dubai on July 15, 2019. During the interrogation, Machmach told the police that it was he who introduced Ahmedraja Wadharia to Rizwan Kaskar and also to the members of the Chhota Shakeel gang.

Machmach's arrest came in connection with a dispute between traders deal-

ing with imported goods. In one of the taped telephonic conversations, Machmach handed out a threat to the complainant in June 2019 in an earlier case and told the latter not to seek money from Ashfaq Towelwala.

The police went to search Rizwan Kaskar's residence on the afternoon of July 17, 2019. In an effort to avoid his arrest, Rizwan Kaskar and his wife attempted to fly to Dubai, only to be arrested at the airport.

Iqbal Kaskar is Dawood's second relative to have been arrested in recent years. It may be recalled that Danish Parkar, nephew of the fugitive don Dawood, was detained and sent to jail by Nagpada police in March 2006 to ensure that he did not create any trouble.

The passport authorities had initiated a verification procedure suspecting that he had acquired a forged passport.

Danish, son of late Haseena Parkar, elder sister of Dawood Ibrahim, had been detained by Nagpada police under provisions of the Bombay Police Act, as a passport verification process was initiated in connection with the passport acquired by him. The detention was ensured against Danish creating any problem during the passport verification process.

# Opening of tender for Central Secretariat buildings postponed again

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Public Works Department (CPWD) has extended the last date of submission of bids and opening of technical bids for the construction of the first three buildings of the proposed new Common Central Secretariat from Wednesday to July 14. This is the second time the deadlines have been pushed in a week, with the earlier extension being from June 16 to Wednesday.

According to CPWD officials, the last date of submission of bids and opening of technical bids for the construction of the first three buildings of the proposed new Common Central Secretariat from Wednesday to July 14. The CPWD had invited bids for three new office buildings under the Common Central Secretariat along Rajpath at a

cost of ₹3,269 crore and ₹139 crore was set aside for five year's maintenance in April this year.

These new buildings will come on the plot where the Indra Gandhi National Centre for the Arts is currently located. The Modi Government's mega project to redevelopment of central vista and construction of a new parliament building has become a bone of contention as the opposition parties are demanding to scrap the project in view of the Covid pandemic.

The redevelopment of the Central Vista -- the nation's power corridor -- envisages a new parliament building, a common central secretariat, revamping of the 3 km Rajpath from Rashtrapati Bhavan to India Gate, new prime minister's residence and prime minister's office, and a new vice president enclave.

# Hardcore woman Maoist surrenders before police in Maha

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

A hardcore woman Maoist with a bounty on her head, who was wanted for involvement in 15 encounters, an incident of arson and four major offences, surrendered before the Gadchiroli police in eastern Maharashtra.

Identifying the surrendered Maoist as Anju Asaram Achala, a resident of Motha Zalia in Dhanora tehsil of Gadchiroli district with various aliases like Shashikala, Guni and Zuri (30), the police said that she had joined Tipagad Naxal Dhalam in 2006 as member and gone on to become the Tipagad Area Committee Member.

According to Gadchiroli police, she was personally involved in 20 crimes including 15 encounters. The Maharashtra Government had

announced ₹6 lakh as bounty against her arrest.

With her surrender, the total number of Maoists who have surrendered before the Gadchiroli police between 2019 and 2021 has gone up to 39. Those surrendered four Divisional Committee Members (DVCM), two Dalam Commanders, three Dept. Commanders, 29 Dalam Members and one Jan Militia Member.

A senior Gadchiroli police official said that "frustrated and fed up with life besieged with violence, Maoists were getting 'attracted' to the surrender policy announced by the Maharashtra Government. The policy involves a rehabilitation programme.

Apart from intensified anti-Naxal operations, the Gadchiroli police undertake various kinds of civic action



Anju Asaram Achala, a hardcore woman Maoist with a bounty on her head, surrendering before the police at a function held in Gadchiroli district in eastern Maharashtra

programmes like Janjagran melawas, Rozgar melawas, Women Melawas and Village Visitations (Grambhet), "which deeply impact the minds of common people". Under the Grambhet programme, senior police officers visit the homes of relatives of Maoists who can

be persuaded to abdicate violence. "These activities contributed to the surrender of Anju Achala," the police official said.

"Simultaneously, we build a constant pressure upon the Naxalites to surrender before the police," the official said.



A peacock dances during the monsoon season, at Thondamuthur on the outskirts of Coimbatore on Wednesday PTI

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PAPER WITH PASSION

## The plus?

The Government seems to be at a crossroads in its tackling of Delta+ variant despite best intentions

Three steps the Union Government has taken in the last couple of days attest to a change for the better in its COVID-19 management policy. The first is the accelerated pace of vaccinations in the country. Over 8.3 million doses were given on a single day on Monday, the highest so far, beating the April 1 record of 4.8 million. In the first week of May, when the second wave of the pandemic was at its peak, single-day vaccinations hovered around 1.6 million. On Tuesday, however, the pace slowed down with some States experiencing a massive fall in the numbers. While the intention of the Government is honourable, to set a scorching pace to reach herd immunity at the earliest, it needs to ensure that the exercise does not become an event but is part of an organised, consistent process. Two, the Government has declared the Delta+ mutation as a Variant of Concern (VoC). The announcement came within hours of the Union Health Secretary saying the variant is only a Variant of Interest (VoI). Such an open contradiction of its Ministry may be unique for this Government, but it shows the latter is proactive and moving ahead with caution, having drawn flak for failing to recognise the Delta variant earlier.



Three, the Government has cautioned the States against unchecked opening up of the lockdown, recommending a close watch on adherence to safety protocols. In perhaps its first, comprehensive advisory to the States concerning Delta+, the Government has asked them to step up monitoring in the six districts

in three States where cases of the new variant have been detected, increase testing, contact tracing, and vaccination. However, this is only a bit of the task done. Vaccinations continue to be problematic. The Government does give daily data about the number of doses at hand, but transparency is needed about the doses expected from the Indian and foreign manufacturers and the numbers apportioned to the states. This will enable to streamline the vaccination process. There is now an obvious rush to get free vaccinations leading to a fear of a reduced rush for paid vaccinations in private hospitals. Is it the right time for the Government to take over the procurement and supply of 100 per cent of the vaccinations to rationalise the process? India is yet to nail the vaccine efficacy issue. If it is a case of the more mutations the lesser the efficacy, then the Government has to come clear on a big-picture approach than reactive ones. There are reports of Bharat Biotech releasing data of its third phase trial to the Government regulator, but somehow the company shuns transparency. Also, the campaign to remove vaccine hesitancy is still to go national, presently restricted to the imagination of village-level teams. The unlock remains an issue of grave concern, with neither the States nor the Centre coming with tangible mechanisms to prevent safety violations without affecting economic activity.

### PICTALK



People with motorcycles travel by boats to cross the flooded Ganga river, at Kachchi Dargah in Patna

PTI

## Red ball

The new, World Test Championship, format has accorded competitiveness to all cricket games, even against lesser names

The World Test Championship was launched to bring excitement back into the longest format of the game, vis-à-vis the faster T20 matches, across the globe. The inaugural season, which started immediately after the end of ICC Cricket World Cup 2019 and concluded with the first ever WTC Final in Southampton between India and New Zealand on Wednesday, was the first ever multination ICC event which was played with the red ball. The idea to start the championship in the ultimate format was to give relevance to every bilateral series that is played as the points were awarded to each team after the end of every series and the top two teams with the maximum number of points by the end of a two-year cycle make it to the final and fight for the silverware. Ever since the WTC format came into act, the Test matches saw the rise in level of competitiveness. The teams now go for the kill in every game because a win would get them extra points as against a draw. Earlier, teams used to rest all format players for the red ball matches against the not-so-fancy opponents but now, under the new format, even after winning the series before all the matches are played, team's don't rest their main players and would rather start with the strongest possible eleven in all the matches.

The competitiveness that was missing from the Test matches was installed back into the game by this WTC championship and it has certainly added an extra flair in the bilateral matches. Now the matches against teams like Bangladesh and Windies also have the same relevance as that of the matches against Australia or England. However, there are still a few things that needed to be sorted out to make it even more interesting and worthy, like the number of points awarded after every Test match win should be the same, irrespective of the number of matches in the series. Every game should be offering equal points and not like a five-match Test series will offer 24 points per Test win as compared to 60 per win in case of two match series. That is quite unfair. There were discussions about if one game is enough to determine the winner, like in case of this year's championship, or the ICC should consider having a proper Best of Three final to get the winner.

The National and State Commissions for Protection of Child are empowered by law to take legal action against such criminal activities. Social activists, NGOs, newspapers and the aware citizens must report and publicise such incidents so that timely action can be taken against those engaged in illegal activities.



# Constitution, courts & a Prime Minister

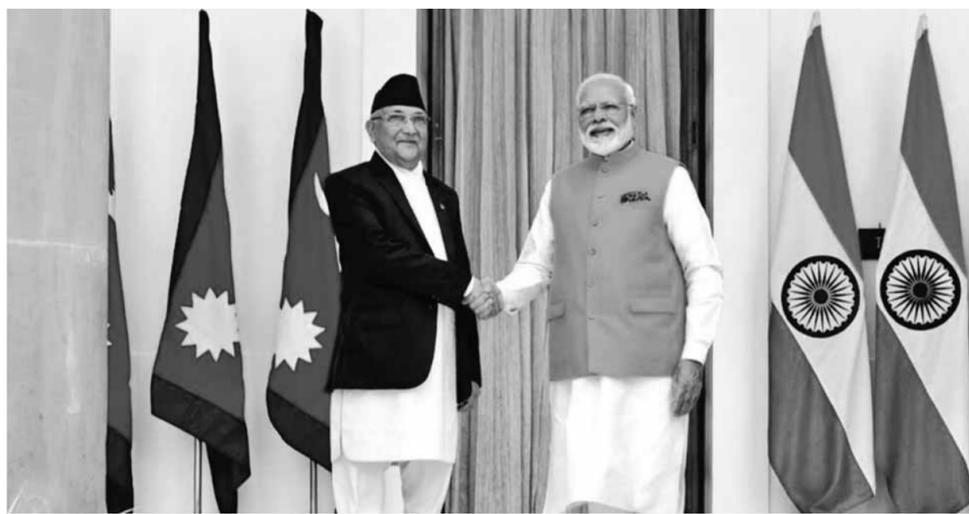


RISHI GUPTA

Among a host of obstacles in the path, even with the President on his side, Nepal's Supreme Court has given Prime Minister Oli a rap on the knuckles

The ongoing political instability in Nepal has deteriorated with the Supreme Court's verdict on June 22. In a big blow to Prime Minister KP Oli, the apex court quashed the appointment of 20 new Ministers in the Oli Cabinet. These Ministers were appointed after Oli managed to crack a deal with a faction of the Janata Samajbadi Party led by Mahanta Thakur and Rajendra Mahto to support his minority Government. The acting Prime Minister, Oli, had appointed these Ministers, including two deputy Prime Ministers, on June 4 and 10. Meanwhile, these Ministers were appointed when the House of Representative stood dissolved, and the Supreme Court was examining a pile of petitions against the House dissolution on May 21. The Supreme Court has stoked the fanfare and enthusiasm among Oli's supporters for the second time in a row. On February 23, the court had quashed the unilateral move by President Bidya Bhandari to dissolve a functional Parliament and declaration of new elections in March and April. The first House was dissolved in December 2020 after Oli feared that his tussle with Maoist Party chief Prachanda would fall, which eventually happened in May.

However, Oli has been trying to play out the Constitution for months, using the President's Office. As a result, of this nexus between Oli and Bhandari, Nepal again stands at a crossroads similar to the days of the political transition from monarchy to democracy in 2006. The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear hundreds of petitions filed against President Bhandari's decision to dissolve the House for a second time. While the hopes are high that the court may restore the House, it brings severe administrative challenges to the Government. At present, Oli is left with only five Ministers in his cabinet, including himself in charge of several portfolios. As per the Constitution, Oli should have continued with his previous Cabinet as no new appointment can be made under a dissolved House, or the Government in question has not faced the vote of confidence. However, the power-sharing between Janata Samajbadi



Party itself was based on new portfolios and one deputy premier.

As a result, Oli had asked his Ministers and loyalists in the Cabinet to resign en masse. However, amidst two back-to-back defeats in the apex court, the moral question for Oli has to be his resignation as for the last one year, he has merely been interested in the PMO for his political survival rather than focusing on COVID-19 and acting upon corruption charges levied on his fellow Ministers.

**Unreliable Oli:** Many in India believe that New Delhi facilitated the Janata Samajbadi Party's decision to support Oli. As a result, a long-term critic to India, Oli went on to record to say "differences with India have been resolved". If this is the case, India has taken the biggest strategic risk by trusting an untrustworthy Oli. For the last five years, Oli has been spitting venom against India's goodwill in Nepal. From raising the border issue to manipulating cultural and religious facts to suit his ultra-nationalistic outlook, he unilaterally included India's sovereign territory in a new political map of the country. However, even after everything seemed to be favouring



**KP SHARMA OLI IS A PRODUCT OF POLITICAL EQUATIONS AND CALCULATIONS, AND HIS CORD FUNCTIONS AS PER THE POLITICAL SUITABILITY. THEREFORE, HOPING A FRIENDLY OLI WILL BE NEXT TO IMPOSSIBLE TASK FOR INDIA**

India in Nepal, Oli once again alleged his claim on yoga as a Nepali practice and "not Indian". While Oli may still hold the powerful office in Nepal, India needs to think beyond him to keep open borders safe and prevent cross-border activities from affecting India's national security.

Oli is a product of political equations and calculations, and his cord functions as per the political suitability. Therefore, hoping a friendly Oli will be next to impossible task for India. On the other hand, China continues to benefit from political instability in the Himalayan country.

Before the second wave of COVID-19 had hit, India had supplied more than two million doses to Nepal. On the other hand, China promised to supply the second consignment of vaccines with four million doses. Meanwhile, the dragon has shown its unhappiness over media reports on the procurement. It exposes China's commercial intent in supplying the vaccines at about \$10 per dose (₹1186 Nepali) than its desired humanitarian intent. Meanwhile, Oli does not seem bothered with Chinese micro-management of Nepalese political affairs, its territorial expansion on the

Nepalese soil, brutal policies on Tibetan refugees living in Nepal and artificial humanitarian acts. The two large photographs of Chinese President Xi Jinping continue to grace the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website in Nepal at the cost of deteriorating relations with India.

**Conclusion:** The political instability in Nepal is the least desired by the people of Nepal under the current circumstances. Before Nepal, there are immediate challenges in terms of medical infrastructure, employment, economic development, infrastructure and leadership, which are clearly not on Oli's agenda. Therefore, while the people of Nepal await the court's verdict on the fate of Oli as Prime Minister, the latter himself should pave the way for a stable Nepal by resigning on moral grounds. Also, Nepal needs to understand that China may be a "big brother", but it is ill prepared to deal with dragon's ill-intended expansionist outlook where India is an "elder brother" it always needs. (The author is an ICSSR Doctoral Fellow at the JNU and Visiting Fellow at the Asian Institute of Diplomacy and International Affairs, Kathmandu. The views expressed are personal.)

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### THEY'RE OUR KIDS, GO TO THEM!

Sir — With regard to 'Corona's orphans: Kids of a lesser god', June 23, it is extremely pitiful that thousands of children in India have lost one or both parents in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. And the prospect of a surge of abandoned minors worries many. Heart-rending stories in the media and desperate calls for help on social channels reveal a devastating truth of our times.

The intention is good, the schemes are fine but how will orphaned children avail of these benefits? Can we expect small or adolescent orphaned children going to the Government departments, filling up forms, submitting certificates and availing of this scheme? The direction has to be in reverse.

Instead of orphans seeking help from the Government, it is the State machinery which should send its officials to meet these orphaned children, prepare details and arrange a smooth transfer of stipends and educational loans. The entire task devolves upon the State Governments, who will have to provide data to the Centre.

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

#### KIDS OF A LESSER GOD

Sir — According to UNICEF, India has over 30 million orphan and abandoned children. Unfortunately, the existing Corona crisis is adding unknown numbers of orphans to the list. In times of crisis of this magnitude, some miscreants try to derive undue benefit by resorting to human trafficking, which surely is a blot on society. These unscrupulous people tend to hoodwink gullible persons, who are easy targets. Their sentiments are exploited for exorbitant sums of money. The business of child trafficking and criminal trading is rampant and must be dealt with an iron hand.

The National and State Commissions for Protection of Child are empowered by law to take legal action against such criminal activities. Social activists, NGOs, newspapers and the aware citizens must report and publicise such incidents so that timely action can be taken against those engaged in illegal activities.

#### Caution ahead



Delta Plus variant, a mutated version of the more aggressive B.1.617.2 strain that drove the second wave of infections in India, is undergoing additional mutation called K417N which could become a "variant of concern" if unchecked as the variant is causing a surge in cases. India would see a faster surge if aggressive COVID-appropriate behaviour is not followed and insisted upon. The Delta plus is a variant which is of same lineage as the Delta variant, with a slight change as there is one more mutation found, which could be a cause of concern because this mutation, the K417N, is something which may change the virus to some extent

as far as its infectivity is concerned.

The B.1.617.2 variant is characterised as being highly infectious. The spike protein is what helps the virus enter and infect human cells, and the K417N mutation has been associated with immune escape, or evasion, that leaves it less susceptible, or more immune, to the vaccine or any form of drug therapy. India should not take this virus casually as this virus is changing and changing to survive and infect more people, therefore we have to be ahead of the virus.

The UK did a very good job by having an aggressive lockdown for many months and when they started opening up, the new variant caused the surge in number of cases. What it means is we are also in a vulnerable situation and if we are not careful right now then three or four months from now, we will have a similar situation and that is why we need to be very aggressive; it is mutating, changing, new variants are coming up. With this danger of Delta Plus variant looming heavily, we have to tackle it on war footing.

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

People must be made aware about the due process of adoption by the Government. The Central Adoption Resource Authority regulates the adoption of the orphaned, abandoned children. In fact, the whole process must be streamlined to avoid delays.

Recently, the SC also came to the rescue of those orphaned by the crisis and gave instructions to the Government about their protection. This critical issue must be addressed and headed so that they can get their rightful due a dignified life.

Vijay Singh Adhikari | Nainital

#### A DAMP SQUIB

Sir — Despite much political excitement around an Opposition party, the Rashtra Manch meeting hosted by Nationalist Congress Party chief Sharad Pawar in the Capital turned out to be a damp squib with a majority of the Opposition parties giving it a miss and many of them sending in sec-

ond-line leaders.

The NCP was subsequently at pains to explain that Pawar was only playing the host and did not organise the meeting. It also explained that there was no deliberate exclusion of the Congress. Other than the Congress, the DMK, the RJD and the BSP too did not send any representatives to the meeting.

It has been reported in the media that this meeting of Rashtra Manch was held by Sharad Pawar to unite anti-BJP parties is totally a showpiece rather than serving a desired purpose. Moreover, the meeting should not be misconstrued as a big political step taken by Pawar to exclude the Congress from any potential opposition grouping, pointing out that several Congress leaders were invited but they did not attend.

Chitra Krishnan | Vashi

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

### SOUNDBITE

Chiranjeevi garu, on behalf of the State Government, I thank you for your kind words of appreciation. The credit goes to team effort.



**Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister**  
— YS Jagan Mohan Reddy

We will not raise interest rates preemptively because we think employment is too high, because we fear the possible onset of inflation.

**US Federal Reserve Chair**  
— Jerome Powell

It is totally in the hands of makers as to what role they offer. I am known as a comedian and people have enjoyed my comic avatar for the longest.



**Actor**  
— Sunil Grover

Read reports that England cricketers may not be able to have family members with them Down Under this winter.

**Former England skipper**  
— Michael Vaughan

The scheme shall come into force with the effect from the date of its publication in the Delhi gazette.



**Delhi Lieutenant Governor**  
— Anil Bajal

FIRST COLUMN

BACKWARDS AS 'FORWARD' IN UP

Rajbhar or otherwise, the names don't matter, but the point is to let the 'backwards' take the lead



BISWAJEET BANERJEE

Is it a coincidence that the state presidents of all the major parties in Uttar Pradesh namely, Bharatiya Janata Party, Samajwadi Party, and Congress belong to the backward castes, or is it a compulsion that has pushed all the major players in UP to woo the backwards by projecting them as state presidents? It is a political reality that the party which will be able to garner the maximum support from the backwards will win Uttar Pradesh. The BJP state president, Swatantra Dev Singh, and the Samajwadi Party state president, Naresh Uttam, are Kurmi, an influential backward caste after Yadavs. The Congress state president, Ajay Kumar Lallu, is a Senthwar, another backward caste.

The results of the 2017 assembly elections and the 2019 general elections show the importance of the votes of the backwards in UP politics. "The BJP was able to win these elections only because it was able to stitch a social alliance between its core, upper caste, and middle-class base and the intermediary castes, constituting more than 50 per cent of the state's electorate," Nomita P Kumar of Giri Institute of Development Studies in Lucknow said. The forthcoming electoral battle in Uttar Pradesh represents a matter of survival for the four major players. After the BJP fared poorly in the West



Bengal assembly elections and got a drubbing in the state Panchayat polls, a message went down the political corridors that it is losing its sheen. A loss in UP would intensify the pressure on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and that could prove detrimental to the party in the 2024 elections.

Senior BJP leaders confirm that the RSS and the BJP leadership have asked senior leaders to contest the elections. The Chief Minister, Yogi Adityanath, and Deputy Chief Minister, Dr Dinesh Sharma, who are members of the Upper House, will contest from Gorakhpur and Lucknow, respectively. For the Samajwadi Party it is a fight for its relevance. It secured only five seats in the 2014 general elections. It lost the 2017 assembly elections despite an alliance with Congress. In 2019, it lost again when it had an alliance with BSP. The party lost these elections under Akhilesh Yadav's leadership. There are reports that Akhilesh Yadav is not willing to forge an alliance with big parties but is ready to share seats with smaller caste-based parties. Samajwadi Party has almost finalized an alliance with the Mahan Dal, a small caste-based party that is popular among the backward Maurya, Kushwaha, and Saini castes. On the other hand, BJP too has started putting its house in order. Sanjay Nishad of Nishad Party and Anupriya Patel of Apna Dal (S) recently met Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The meeting is considered crucial in the backdrop of backward politics and BJP losing the Rajbhar support after Om Prakash Rajbhar of Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party walked out of the National Democratic Alliance.

Rajbhar has formed 'Bhagidari Sankalp Morcha' - a conglomeration of small parties and the front will field candidates in the 2022 assembly elections. The Morcha includes Babu Singh Kushwaha's Jan Adhikar Party, Krishna Patel's Apna Dal, Prem Chandra Prajapati's Bhagidari Andolan Manch, Baburam Pal's National Uday Party, Ram Sagar Bind's Bharat Mata Party, Ram Karan Kashyap's Bharatiya Vanchit Samaj Party, Anil Chauhan's Janata Kranti Party and All India Majlis-e-Muslimeen of Asaduddin Owaisi. Arun Rajbhar, son of Om Prakash Rajbhar, said that the Morcha will emerge as the king-maker. "We have the support of Backwards, MBCs, and Muslims. This is a very potent force which has the potential to topple the apple cart of big parties," he said.

(The writer is Executive Director (News), The Pioneer, Lucknow. The views expressed are personal.)

Fuel, healthcare, online businesses spur prices



SHIVAJI SARKAR

The recovery process, the SBI says, needs a cut in fuel prices by tax rationalisation as otherwise non-discretionary spends will continue to get distorted and cause inflation

The Indian economy may have started recovering with the pandemic unlock but galloping inflation, increasing healthcare expenses, and rising unemployment are major bane.

The global economy is to rise by four per cent and India would marginally benefit from it with some rise in exports. A World Bank report wants India to create 90 million jobs in non-agricultural organized sector - a Herculean task as most private sector offices are either closing down or slashing operations. Humanitarian crises, hunger deaths, and societal conflicts are growing.

Latest figures indicate 12.69 per cent inflation primarily on account of F2 - food and fuel. The fuel price rise is hitting every sector of the economy with nobody to correct it. The basic price of petrol remains still around ₹35.99 and over ₹65 are the central and state tax components. The edible oil prices have reached crisis points with a 62 per cent spike, Food Secretary Sudhansu Pande says. This follows withdrawal of edible oil from essential commodities list in September 2020

A State Bank of India report says that massive increase in healthcare, especially in the hinterland, steadily rising fuel prices, and online delivery of articles will increase inflationary pressure much higher on the one hand, while crowding out other consumer spending on the other, putting a big question mark on overall growth that is still being driven by consumption demand. Month-on-month increase in inflation on non-institutional medicines, x-ray, ECG, pathological and other clinical tests is taking a heavy toll not only in urban areas but even on the rural populace.

The SBI report has questioned the headline inflation figures announced by the ministry. It says that price movements convey important information about the scarcity of particular goods and services like health and medical care as of now. Health expenditure, which currently constitutes five per cent of overall inflation basket, may jump to at least 11 per cent. (It may be noted that health expenditure is around ₹6 lakh crore or five per cent of the private final consumption expenditure). This is likely to also result in a squeeze in expenditure on other items of discretionary consumption.

The daily increase of fuel prices is another bane. "And if we look at credit card spends since December, CPI computed inflation for the five-month ending April is higher than the CSO estimate on an average by 60 basis points and the higher oil prices had forced consumers to ration out discretionary spends in December," says SBI chief economist Soumya Kanti Ghosh. It means the actual inflation is 60 per cent more than the CSO figures.

The RBI has virtually given credence to the SBI finding as it estimates ₹2 lakh crore losses on economic output. It says that it may not reflect on GDP but there would be a considerable value loss across the economy. The SBI report clarifies it as the share of non-discretionary spend which has jumped to 59 per cent in April and 52 per cent in March and "this does not augur well".

The inflation is to further rise as the US has matched its interest rate rise. It would



THE RBI HAS ALREADY LOWERED ITS GDP PROJECTION TO 9.5 PER CENT FROM 10.5 PER CENT. IT HAD HOPED 18.5 PER CENT RECOVERY IN THE FIRST QUARTER, CONSIDERED LOW BASE GIVEN THE CONTRACTION LAST YEAR. IT IS NOW SCEPTICAL DUE TO THE SECOND WAVE OF LOCKDOWN THAT SEES DECLINE IN DEPOSITS, INDICATING HIGHER HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES, AND LOWER SAVINGS

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



impact India as well as there would be commodity price-rise globally. The RBI upon the government's suggestion has suppressed interest rates but it will not help keep prices low. It will make it difficult for the RBI to manage the conflicting targets of inflation, exchange rate, and adequate liquidity amidst weak growth.

The RBI has already lowered its GDP projection to 9.5 per cent from 10.5 per cent. It had hoped 18.5 per cent recovery in the first quarter, considered low base given the contraction last year. It is now sceptical due to the second wave of lockdown that sees decline in deposits, indicating higher household expenses, and lower savings. Additionally, currency holding - cash - with the people decelerated to 1.7 per cent during April against a growth of 3.5 per cent last year.

It substantiates what the SBI says that extra expenses on households have increased manifold. Also, there has been an increase in use of online delivery platforms which is not considered by the NSO and if the NSO considers online prices, there will be 10-15 basic points (bps) impact on CPI inflation. The SBI says

that the online delivery adds to inflation. The RBI says that the increased healthcare and other expenses have impacted domestic demand. That is the reason of delayed recovery of manufacturing, core sector and other activities.

The recovery process, the SBI says, needs a cut in fuel prices by tax rationalization as otherwise non-discretionary spends will continue to get distorted and cause inflation.

The RBI has given another formula. It has gone a bit beyond and wants to partner with the private sector - in short a prescription for further denuding the PSUs. The recommendation should make the authorities rethink on privatisation.

Over the last few years, major PSUs have consistently increased payouts to the government despite a dip in their profitability. Since 2016, as per an official diktat they are paying a minimum 30 per cent of their profit after tax or five per cent of their net worth, whichever is higher, as dividend.

The 100 government companies declared a dividend of ₹71,857 crore during 2018-19, according to the CAG. In 2021,

the PSUs paid a dividend of ₹39,022 crore (against an estimated ₹34,717 crore), the RBI paid ₹99,000 crore dividend, and other banks paid ₹1,619 crore in 2020-21. In short, a major part of the government expenses are being funded by the PSUs. The government's efforts to sell PSUs are being stonewalled by a poor economy. It should rather change its policies to strengthen the PSUs.

Despite this the India remains an investment destination. A healthy flow of FDI into the country corroborates India's strength and attracts attention of global investors, the Confederation of Indian Industry says. Total equity, re-invested earnings, and capital rose 10 per cent to the highest ever \$81.72 billion during 2020-21.

The RBI expects recent government boost in capital expenditure to spur activity and investment. For all this, however, there has to be a major shift in policy thrust. While private investments must rise, the government must relook at strengthening PSUs to tide over the crisis that is beyond the capacity of the private sector. This would alone cut prices and boost demand.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

ON A DAY INDIA VACCINATED MORE THAN 84 LAKH PEOPLE, DELHI ADMINISTERED ONLY 76,259 OUT OF MORE THAN 11 LAKH DOSES AVAILABLE. WHY?  
— UNION URBAN DEVELOPMENT MINISTER HARDEEP SINGH PURI



HARDEEP JI: PLS FOCUS ON PROVIDING ENOUGH VACCINES FOR THE YOUTH, RATHER THAN JUST ABUSING ARVIND KEJRIWAL ALL THE TIME.  
— DELHI DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER MANISH SISODIA

Aviation Industry: Pandemic-hit Phoenix waiting to rise

Indian aviation is expected to incur \$4 billion worth of losses in 2021 and it is not easy to even out the operational costs before 2023

The COVID-19 pandemic has clipped the wings of the aviation industry the world over. In India, the lockdown banning air travel has hit this industry the worst. As a ripple effect, the tour and travel and the hospitality industry have also been hit.



GYANESHWAR DAYAL

Downsizing has led to people in these industries losing their jobs and a lucky few are working on half, reduced or meagre salaries. International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) pegs the losses of the aviation industry at \$370 billion. Air travel is down 60 per cent. This has led to airlines shutting most of their operations. They continue to incur fixed costs without the grounded fleets not earning a dime. According to the Indian rating

(The writer is a columnist and a documentary film-maker. The views expressed are personal.)

agency ICRA, domestic passenger traffic between May and September 2020 was only 11 million in comparison to 70 million in 2019.

An aviation expert, PS Nair, says Indian aviation is expected to incur \$4 billion worth of losses in 2021. Nair says: "These losses are not easy to even out. A very careful and integrated approach is required to rejuvenate the aviation industry. Everything would depend upon the economic recovery of the country. But aviation stands a good chance, as it has no alternative. If you have to travel, you have to take a flight; virtual flight is not an option."

India is the seventh-largest civil aviation market in the world. It is the third-largest aviation market in terms of



domestic operations. The country has the potential to overtake the United Kingdom and become the world's third-largest aviation market in terms of handling air passengers within the next five years.

The best minds in the aviation industry recently had a brainstorming session under the aegis of the Air Travellers Association (ATA). GS Bawa, General Secretary, ATA, feels

that the recovery will take years, if not decades. The recovery is linked to Covid-19 vaccination programs and testing procedures worldwide. He feels operational costs would not break even before 2023.

PS Nair, the former CEO, Delhi Airport and founder-CEO of HIAL says that the industry has a good chance to bounce back as fundamentals of the country's economy are still favourable. For a few years before the pandemic, the aviation sector of India had registered a steady growth and India had overtaken Japan to become the third-biggest domestic market. Private investors were showing interest in developing the country's airports but Covid-19 struck and stalled everything.

Efforts are already on in the industry as well as in the government to make the turnaround possible. To encourage the development of the aviation industry, the government plans to invest up to \$1.83 billion and develop airport infrastructure and aviation navigation services by 2026. The Culture and Tourism Minister Prahad Patel is hopeful of early revival, saying the tourism and aviation industries will be back with a bang because the government is linking its vaccination program with the drive to revive the tourism sector. The government is also working on a uniform policy for travel and protocols for vaccinated travellers. The Minister recently launched the Confederation of Hospitality, Technology and

Tourism Industry, an industry body of travel and hospitality tech players like Airbnb, EaseMyTrip, OYO, and Yatra. The idea is to help small operators in the tourism sector.

Nair, however, feels optimistic because the country aims to open 100 new airports by 2024 of which 30 projects are already in progress. Plans are on to have 200 more airports by 2040. The infrastructure boost coupled with a rise in demand should see the Indian aviation industry flying high. "The Government must support the industry. If you increase the airfares, the demand may further come down, if you don't losses would mount," says Bawa.

On its part, ATA has a few recommendations for helping out the aviation industry. It has

asked the government to compensate airlines and airports to the extent of their operating losses and give them some tax relief. It wants a government package for maintaining operations in tier-2 and tier-3 cities. This will improve passenger confidence. The traffic will improve bringing sustainability to the sector.

Bawa has also asked the government to relax the travel restrictions for those who have been vaccinated. "Restrictions like the RT-PCR tests and quarantines should not be mandatory for the travellers with both jabs," he says. The ATA has suggested that for inland travel, a pass with a fitness certificate can also be issued. "Yatra Setu" on the lines of "Arogya Setu" can be a good step in this direction.

# Myanmar trial of Australian adviser to Suu Kyi still not set

**Bangkok:** The case of an Australian economist and adviser to Myanmar's ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi who like her was arrested in February remained in legal limbo Wednesday as a court considered where he should be tried. Su Kyi, her advisor Sean Turnell and three former Cabinet ministers were charged in March under Myanmar's official secrets law, which is punishable by up to 14 years in prison.

# Myanmar's junta leader attends military conference in Moscow

**AP ■ MOSCOW**  
The leader of Myanmar's military junta on Wednesday attended an international conference in Moscow, an appearance that reflected Russia's eagerness to develop ties with it despite international opprobrium. The military in Myanmar ousted the democratically elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi on Feb. 1, saying her party's landslide victory in elections last November resulted from massive voter fraud. It has not produced credible evidence to back its claim.



Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu, left, and Commander-in-Chief of Myanmar's armed forces Senior General Min Aung Hlaing walk past the honour guard prior to their talks in Moscow, Russia on Tuesday. AP

Security forces have brutally suppressed widespread popular protests against the military takeover, killing hundreds of protesters and carrying out waves of arrests. The junta's leader, Senior Gen. Min Aung Hlaing, claimed in Wednesday's speech at the conference organised by Russia's Defence Ministry that it was trying to consolidate a democratic system in the country that has "degraded."

On Tuesday, Min Aung Hlaing met with Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu, who hailed strong military cooperation between the countries. "We pay special attention to this meeting as we see Myanmar as a time-tested strategic partner and a reliable ally in Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific region," Shoigu said at the start of the meeting. He added that "cooperation in the military and military technical field is an important part of relations between Russia and Myanmar" and praised Min Aung Hlaing for strengthening the country's military. Shoigu said that Russia would work to expand ties with Myanmar based on "mutual understanding, respect and trust."

## PUBLIC NOTICE

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The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Sachin Mittal, Shyoo Ram Choudhary, H No- 61 D First Floor, Arjun Nagar, Safdarjung Enclave, Delhi, A/c No:- LBJA100003779154	Flat No E808, E809, E804, E805, 8th Floor, Pink Pride, Khasra No 9, Village Jaisinghpura Bass Bhankrota Tehsil Sangner, Jaipur, Rajasthan, Jaipur- 303902	15-Apr-2021, Rs. 1,30,100/-	31/07/2020
2.	Abdul Nasir,reshma Nasir, House No-13 2190 Puli Banarani Street, Lakhi Gate Kantabser Shaharanpur, Saharanpur, A/c No:-LBDEL00002737510	Flat No 306, 3rd Floor, Tower B, Durva Greens, Plot No Gh 08a, Sec Chi- V, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 93,79,437/-	30/04/2018
3.	Abdussalam, Ehtesham Ahmad, 405 Saba Sahkari Awas Samiti Apartment, Plot No D 3 Sector 44, Noida, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:-LBND00001820032	Kph-2-1201, Kensington Park-1, Jaypee Greens Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 41,13,238.3/-	31/10/2018
4.	Abinash Kumar, Anjani Kumari, F- 9/ 124- B, Kataria Sarai, Delhi, Haryana A/c No:-LBGUR00002437442	Flat No-14- 701, 7th Floor, Tower 4, Arawali Homes Sec 4, Gurgaon, Haryana	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 14,29,160/-	31/07/2018
5.	Ajay Bhatnagar, Rashmi, H No 336 Vasant Apartments, Old Delhi Road, Gurgaon, Uttaranchal A/c No:-LBGUR00001886624	Flat No. 401, Block- C2, 4th Floor, Vistas Unitech, Sector-70, Gurgaon, Gurgaon, Haryana	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 35,32,946.3/-	31/10/2018
6.	Ajay Giri, Sunita Giri, House No B 44 Chahal House Mansarovar, Colony Moradabad, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:-LBGUR00001919445	Unit No-Idi-15-303, Kove Jaypee Greens Sports City, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 52,87,885/-	31/01/2017
7.	Ajay Giri, Sunita Giri, House No B 44 Chahal House Mansarovar, Colony Moradabad, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:-LBGUR00001925884	Unit No-Idi-15-303, Kove Jaypee Greens Sports City, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 3,91,700/-	31/01/2017
8.	Akashjain, Neha Jain, Flat No 1 1204, Aparna Sarovar, Grande Nalla Gandia, Hydrabad, Telangana A/c No:-LBDEL00002358175	Flat No C 1006, 10th Floor, Tower C, Vardhman's Springdale Tower A B C D, Sector-03, Dharuhera Distt Rewari, Rewari, Haryana	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 47,37,420/-	31/03/2019
9.	Alok Ranjan, Pinki Ranjan, U24 A/34 Gf Pink Town House Df Ph-iii, Gurgaon, A/c No:- LBGUR00003122066	Flat No-2101, 21st Floor, Tower A, Misty Heights, Plot No Gh-01 Sec-sports Cityadjoining Techzone-iv Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 61,35,841/-	30/09/2018
10.	Allokumar, Somashri Shahi, 6b 106 Plot No Gh-4, Aditya Garden City Sec-6, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:-LBGUR00002436557	Flat No B 106, Ff Plot No 6/g-4 Sec 6, Aditya Garden City Vasundhara, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 16,38,043/-	30/11/2018
11.	Amresh Chandra Verma, Aarti Verma, Ke-15 Kavi Nagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:-LBND00002074973	Flat No- C-503, 5th Floor, Block-c, Amritsar One, Nh-1 Shubham Enclave, Amritsar, Punjab	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 23,88,824/-	30/11/2018
12.	Amrishi Raz, Syeda Rana Jabeen, E-110-a 2nd Floor Backside Abul, Fazal Enclave-I, Delhi, A/c No:-LBDEL00002416058	Flat No 1701, 17th Floor, Tower-c, Circuit Heights, Amuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority, Plot No- Gh-g4 Sec-25 Jaypee Sports International Y, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 31,74,927/-	31/01/2017
13.	Bhikam Chand Korwa, Poonam, Delhi Govt. Officer's Flat No- 505 Block No-2 Motia Khan, Delhi, A/c No:-LBDEL00001929242	Flat No-205, 2nd Floor, Tower-a5, Plot No-gh001, Sector-113, Unitechunihomes Phase-3, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 26,44,472.3/-	31/08/2018
14.	Aniruddh Singh, Priti Singh, Plot # 92 Madangiri Villagedr Ambedkar Nagar, Delhi, A/c No:-LBDEL00003049213	Flat No 307, 3rd Floor, Tower-c, Bulland Elevates, Plot No Gh-3a, Sector 16c, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 39,92,544/-	31/10/2018
15.	Anjneya Ashwina Dbdardwaj, Kunwar Pal Sharma, Flat No 2104 Sant Sunder Dassi, Cghs, Plot No-21 Sector-12, Near Saminter National School Dwaraka, Delhi, A/c No:-LBND00003260734	Flat No 1508, 15th Floor, Block-A, Antriksh Vally, Plot No Gh-015d, Sector-01, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 60,54,457/-	30/04/2019
16.	Ankur Seth, Anshul Seth, 648 4th Floor, Chirag Delhi Near Shiv Mandir, Delhi, A/c No:- LBGUR00003106059	Flat No 1705, Tower A, 17th Floor, Misty, Heights Sec Sports City, Gh-01, Sector Adjoining Techzone 4, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 65,04,688/-	30/06/2018
17.	Arun Khanna, Anjana Khanna, M. Khanna And Co.(p) Ltd.,44 Uday Park August Kranti Marg, Delhi, A/c No:-LBDEL00001953921	Unit Reference No-gdi0162504, Garden Isles, Jaypee Greens Sector-133, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 70,37,745/-	30/09/2017
18.	Arvindverma, Sheetal Verma, 2c Pocket 3 Phase Imayur Vihar, Delhi, A/c No:-LBDEL00001843006	Kgt-5 - 901, Knight Court, Jaypee Greens, Noida Sector 128, Noida Greater Noida Expressway, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 42,18,485.6/-	30/04/2019
19.	Arvind Kumar Mishra, Harendra Kumar Mishra, Shanti Mishra, 880/31, Laxman Vihar, Gali No. 1, Opposite Apna Enclave, Gurgaon, Haryana A/c No:-LBND000001939030	Flat No. Ld 1- 16- 503, The Kove Jaypee Greens Sports City, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 42,84,560/-	31/07/2018
20.	Aneesh Vij,shilpa Vij, 171-a Express View Apt Block Super, Mig Sector-93, Noida, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:-LBND00002041768	Unit No Khr0221804, Krescent Homes, Wishtown Noida Jaypee Greens, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 93,44,615/-	31/12/2017
21.	Bhartiagarwal, Arpit Jain, 4 2nd Floor Siddvinak Apitms 1151 Ward No-1desu Road, Delhi, Haryana A/c No:-LBGHZ00003070824	Flat No 604, 6th Floor, Tower A, Misty Heights, Plot No Gh 01, Sector Sports City Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 45,03,513/-	28/02/2019
22.	Bhaskara Manna, Bonny Amanna, Plot No 8/ 2 First Floore e, Block Nirajan Park Najafgarh, Delhi, A/c No:-LBGUR0000308306	Plot No 1901, Floor 19th, Tower A, Misty Heights Sport City, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 67,03,770/-	30/06/2018
23.	Braj Kishore Poddar, Smriti Mahajan, B 3/8 2nd Floor Ganga Triveni Apts Sec 9 Rohini, Delhi, A/c No:-LBND00002239710	Bc0b041206, Flat No 1206, 12th Floor, Tower-b4, Jaypee, Boulevard Court Pocket Gh-e Sec-19 And 22, Jaypee Greens Sports City East Mirjapur, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 9,21,304/-	30/09/2016
24.	Brijesh Kumar Bankoti, Sushma Bankoti, Flat No 127 Green View Apartment Sec 17g Vasundhara, Ghaziabad, A/c No:-LBGHZ00002187876	Flat No-2102 21st Floor Tower A, Unnatl The Aranya Residency, Plot No Gh 02, Sector 119, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 44,33,359/-	28/02/2019
25.	Chandni Sharma, Ravi Kumar, House No- B-281, Sector-122, Gautam Buddha Nagar,uttar Pradesh A/c No:-LBND00002964385	Flat No 1001, 10th Floor, Tower-g, Elegant Splendour, Plot No. Cp-gh-05c Sector-techzone-iv Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 41,91,959/-	31/12/2018
26.	Diwan Singh Panth, Janki Bisht, B-133 Maidan Gadi Vill, Delhi, A/c No:-LBDEL00001902227	Ks-3-19-602, Kasia Jaypee Greens, Sport City, Gautam Budh Nagar, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 40,92,548.3/-	30/06/2018
27.	Asharain Gupta, Manish Gupta, D 288 First Floor Sarvodaya Enclave, Delhi, A/c No:-LBDEL00002002769	Flat No 102, 1st Floor, Ldi 19, The Kove, Jaypee Greens Sport City, Gautam Budh Nagar Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 29,44,587/-	30/11/2017
28.	Gaurav Sharma, Pradeep Kumar Sharma, 99, Alamanda Boulevard Point Cook, victoria, Victoria, A/c No:-LBDEL00001941892	Unit No Khr0231801, 18th Floor, Krescent Homes Jaypee Greens, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 51,93,757/-	31/10/2016
29.	Gauravsinh, Shalu Singh, 7/169 Geeta Colony, Delhi, A/c No:-LBDEL00002891319	Flat No-1201, 12th Floor, Tower-d, Circuit Heights, Plot No-gh-g4 Sec-25, Jaypee Sports International Yeida Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 35,82,459/-	31/08/2017
30.	Gianender Singh, Jayanti, H No-1123 Ward No-23 Sonipat, Sonapat, Haryana A/c No:- LBGUR00002057318	Or - 53, Orchid Villa, Indus Satellite Greens, Satellite Greens, Indore, Madhya Pradesh	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 51,02,107/-	30/09/2015
31.	Gurdeep Singh, Shubjit Kaur, Ac-7 Ground Floor Ganga Ram Vatika Tilak Nagar, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:-LBDEL00002299213	Flat No-2602, 25th Floor, Tower A2, Victory Ace, Pkt 2, Plot Gh 02, Sec-143, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 54,41,156/-	30/09/2018
32.	Hartinder Singh Bhatia, Maninder Kaur Bhatia, C-3248 Janak Puri, Delhi, A/c No:-LBDEL00002234142	Gdi0113502, Flat No 3502, 35 Floor, Wishtown Noida Jaypee Greens, Garden Isles Tower, Gd-11, Sector 133, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 25,44,517.99/-	30/11/2017
33.	Hatinder Singh, Rajinder Kaur, Surjeet Fuel Depot, 3/13, West Patel Nagar, Delhi, A/c No:-LBND00001890258	Flat No. Ks3- 10- 204, Kasia Jaypee Greens, Sports City, Gautam Budhnagar Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 20,90,715.97/-	31/12/2017
34.	Hridayesh Kumar Mishra, Preeti, House No-13 A Block Gali No-7 Vidypati Nagar, mubarakpur Dabas Sultanpuri Block-c, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:-LBDEL00003217688	Flat No-1905, Tower-a, 19th Floor, Antriksh Vally Plot No Gh-15d, Sector-1, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 54,74,296/-	30/04/2019

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

Date : June 24, 2021  
Place: Delhi NCR  
Authorized Officer  
ICICI Bank Limited

## Hisar Spinning Mills Limited

(CIN NO.L1712HR1992PLC031621)  
9<sup>th</sup> K.M. Stone, Hisar-Bhiwani Road, V.P.O. Dabra (Hisar) 125005

### NOTICE

Pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and disclosure requirements) Regulations, 2015, notice is hereby given that a Meeting of Board of Directors of the company is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2021, to inter-alia, consider and approve the Company's audited Financial Results for the quarter and year ended on March 31, 2021. The information is also available on the Company's website i.e. www.hisarspinningmills.com and also on the website of the stock exchange, where securities of the company are listed, viz. BSE Ltd. - www.bseindia.com (Scrip code: 521068, Scrip Name: HISARSP).

By order of the Board  
For Hisar Spinning Mills Limited  
(Anurag Gupta)  
Managing Director

Place : Hisar  
Date: June 22, 2021

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is inform to all concern that Shri. Shamhal S/o Late Jaswant Singh R/o Vill Hoshiyarpur Noida Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh was the owner of Residential Plot No H-19, H-20 and H-21, Sector-145, Noida Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar U.P. Shri Shamhal has expired on 26.04.2021. He had executed a registered WILL of said above plots in favour of shri shiva yadav S/o Shri Madan Pal Yadav R/o Vill Sorkha Jahidabad Sector-115, Noida U.P. vide WILL dated 03.09.2013 duly registered in the office of Sub Registrar, Gautam Budh Nagar UP in Book No. 3, Volume No 414 on pages 53 to 62 at Document No. 2272 dated 03.09.2013. Now the above plot are going to be transferred through the above WILL in favour of Shiva Yadav S/o Shri Madan Pal Yadav R/o Vill Sorkha Jahidabad, Sector-115, Noida Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar Uttar Pradesh if any one has/have may file his/her objection along with the sufficient proof in the Residential Plot Department of Noida Authority Sector-6, Noida within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice. Shiva Yadav

## E-TENDERING PRESS NOTICE

The Executive Engineer, CD-I irrigation & GNCTD Opp. ESI Hospital, Basai Darapur Office Complex New Delhi-110027 invites on behalf of the President of India online percentage rae tender from approved and eligible contractors for the following works:-

- NIT No. EE/CD-I/DB/NIT/2021-22/07 (ID No. 2021\_IFC\_204435\_1) H.O.A:- 2711-Non Plan. Name of Work:- Repairing and Renovation of Khyala Bridge at RD 41490 and Raghubar Nagar Bridge at RD 42930 on Najafgarh Drain. E.C. Rs. 36,70,076/- period of Completion 60 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 25.06.2021 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M. respectively.)
- NIT No. EE/CD-I/DB/NIT/2021-22/13 (ID No. 2021\_IFC\_204439\_1) H.O.A:- 4515-Plan (RDB), Name of Work:- Improvement of main road at village Bagdola in Bijwasan Constituency. E.C. Rs 23,16,968/- period of Completion 30 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 25.06.2021 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M. respectively.)

**Note:-**  
1. Details of above mentioned works & eligibility criteria can be seen and downloaded the web site <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>  
2. Amendment(s) alteration(s) / corrigendum if any, will be available at website only.

Executive Engineer  
Civil Division-I  
Irr. & Flood Control Deptt.,  
DIP/Shabdarth/0115/21-22  
Govt. of NCT of Delhi

## UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General Public is hereby informed that one male **Name: Unknown S/O: Unknown. Address: Unknown** was found unconscious on Footpath at Gate No. 03, Lady Hardinge Medical College, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Marg, New Delhi and admitted to Lady Hardinge Medical College vide MLC No. 1125/21. During the treatment Doctors declared brought him dead on 19.06.2021. The body has been preserved in Lady Hardinge Medical College's Mortuary, Delhi for 72 Hrs. In this regard a case has been lodged vide DD No. 13A dated 19.06.2021 at P.S. Mandir Marg, New Delhi. The description of the dead male is as under:- **Age:** Approx 50 years, **Sex:** Male, **Height:** 5'1", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Oval, **Hair:** Long & black beard, **Built:** Normal, **Wearing:** White -blue colour checked T-shirt and red-blue print colour dhoti. If any one having any information about this dead male please inform undersigned.

**SHO**  
P.S. Mandir Marg, New Delhi  
Ph: 011-23366730, 8750870522

DP/284/NDD/2021

Office of the Executive Engineer, Sub Transmission Division Doda  
Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDC),  
Jammu Power Development Department  
Email: xenstdoda@gmail.com, Tel No. 01996-295112

e- NIT No: STD/Doda/Capex 21-22/08 of 2021, Dated 11.06.2021  
INVITATION:-

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir, the Executive Engineer, STD Doda, JPDC Jammu, hereinafter referred as 'Employer', invites online e-bids from reputed Companies or Class 'A' registered contractors for "Stabilization/Improvement of 33KV Khellani-Doda Line, 33 KV Marmat Line and adjoining taps by way of replacement of compromised insulators, installation of 33 KV isolator, setting right of jumpers and Guys etc." under the jurisdiction of Executive Engineer, STD Doda, JPDC Jammu.

1. Bidders are advised to study the Bidding Document carefully. Submission of e-Bid against this SBD shall be deemed to have been done after careful/conscious study and examination of the procedures, terms and conditions of the Standard Bidding Document with full understanding of its implications.

2. The tender document is available at website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested Bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below:  
A. Tender Document Sale/Download Start Date:- 14.06.2021 10.00AM  
B. Tender Document Sale/Download End Date:- 05.07.2021 04:00 PM  
C. e-Bid submission (start) date & time:- 14.06.2021 10:00AM  
D. e-Bid submission (end) date & time :- 05.07.2021 4:00PM

Sd/- (Er. Jarnail Singh)  
Executive Engineer,  
Sub Transmission Division.  
JPDC, Doda.

No. DIP/J-1238-P/21 Dated : 22-06-2021

## N K Textile Industries Limited

Registered office: Omaxe Square, Plot No. 14, 5th Floor, Jasola District Centre, Jasola, New Delhi-110025  
CIN: L17299DL1983PLC163230, Tel: +91 11 61119313  
Email Id: n.ktextiles123@gmail.com, website: www.nktill.com

### NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the meeting no. 02/2021-22 of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on 30th June, 2021 (Wednesday) at the registered office of the Company at Omaxe Square, Plot No. 14, Jasola District Centre, Jasola, New Delhi-110025 at 5.30 PM to discuss the following agenda items:  
i. To take on record the Audited Financial Results (Standalone and Consolidated) of the Company for the Financial Year ended on 31st March, 2021 in terms of Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirement) Regulation, 2015.  
ii. To discuss any other business with the permission of chair.

By Order of the Board,  
For N K Textile Industries Limited  
Sd/-  
(Balbir Singh)  
Director

DIN:00027438  
Place: New Delhi  
Date: 23.06.2021

# Russia fires warning shots to deter UK warship in Black Sea

**AP ■ MOSCOW**  
A Russian warship fired warning shots after the British missile destroyer Defender had ignored a notice against intrusion in Russia's territorial waters. It said that a Russian Su-24 bomber also dropped four bombs ahead of the British ship to persuade it to change course. Minutes later, the British warship left the Russian waters, the ministry said. The Russian Defence Ministry said it has summoned the UK military attache in Moscow to protest the British destroyer's maneuver.

The UK Ministry of Defence did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The Russian Defence Ministry said the Russian warship fired warning shots after the British missile destroyer Defender had ignored a notice against intrusion in Russia's territorial waters. It said that a Russian Su-24 bomber also dropped four bombs ahead of the British ship to persuade it to change course. Minutes later, the British warship left the Russian waters, the ministry said. The Russian Defence Ministry said it has summoned the UK military attache in Moscow to protest the British destroyer's maneuver.

# Iran: 'Sabotage attack' on civilian nuclear center thwarted

**Tehran:** Iranian authorities have thwarted what they called a "sabotage attack" targeting a civilian nuclear facility near the country's capital, state TV reported on Wednesday, as details about the incident remained scarce. The attempted attack against a building belonging to Iran's Atomic Energy Organization "left no casualties or damages and was unable to disrupt the Iranian nuclear program," Iranian state television reported, adding that authorities were working to identify the perpetrators. Iranian media offered no details on the kind of attack, saying only that the move targeted a sprawling nuclear center located in Karaj city, just some 40 kilometers northwest of Tehran. When asked for comment, an Iranian official referred to the initial report by Nournews, believed to be close to Iran's Supreme National Security Council. The official spoke on condition of anonymity as they did not have authorisation to discuss the matter with media. AP

# Warren Buffett resigns from Gates Foundation

**New York:** Warren Buffett is resigning as a trustee from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The announcement comes weeks after Bill and Melinda Gates announced that they were divorcing after 27 years of marriage but would continue to jointly run the foundation, one of the largest charitable foundations in the world. Gates was formerly the world's richest person and his fortune is estimated at well over \$100 billion. AP

# Blast outside JuD chief Hafiz Saeed's house kills 3 in Lahore

**PTI ■ LAHORE**  
A powerful car bomb exploded outside the house of the 2008 Mumbai terror attack mastermind and banned Jamat-ud-Dawa (JuD) chief Hafiz Saeed here on Wednesday, killing at least three people and injuring 21 others. The blast took place at a police picket outside Saeed's residence at the BOR Society in Jauhar Town, resulting in serious injuries to some police officers guarding his house. The windows and walls of Saeed's house were damaged from the impact of the blast, Pakistani media reported. Inspector General of Police (Punjab) Inam Ghani said there could have been a "major loss" had there been no police picket outside the house of the high-profile personality, referring to Saeed. The 71-year-old radical cleric has been serving a jail sentence at the high-security Kot Lakhpat Jail in Lahore for his conviction in terror financing cases.

# Oli: Yoga originated in Nepal, not in India

**Kathmandu:** Nepal's Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli has stoked yet another controversy by claiming that Yoga originated in his country, not in India, a view not shared by a leading expert here. Speaking at a function organised to observe the International Yoga Day on June 21 at the Prime Minister's residence in Baluwatar, Oli said that India was not even born as a separate country when Yoga originated in "this part of the world." "Yoga originated from this part of the globe. It originated from Uttarakhand, in particular, Nepal was the place of origin of Yoga," he said. Some 15,000 years ago, Shambhunath or Shiva propounded the practices of Yoga. Later on, Maharshi Patanjali developed the philosophy of Yoga in a more refined and systematic manner, he said. "Yoga doesn't belong to any particular religion or religious sect," Oli said. "Shiva started the practice of Yoga on the longest day on the Earth, which lies on June 21 as per the Gregorian calendar. Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi proposed to observe International Yoga Day on the same day, for which we all should be pleased," Oli said.

# Delta variant 'greatest threat' to US' Covid-19 efforts: Dr Fauci

**Washington:** The highly contagious Delta variant of the coronavirus is the "greatest threat" to America's attempt to eradicate the pandemic, the country's leading infectious disease expert and White House Chief Medical Advisor Dr Anthony Fauci has warned. The variant, which was first detected in India, is more contagious and causes more severe disease than other circulating variants, he said on Tuesday during a White House Covid-19 response team briefing. PTI

# Moody's cuts 2021 India's growth forecast to 9.6 pc

## FLAGS LOW VACCINATION RATE AS RISK

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

Moody's Investors Service on Wednesday slashed India's growth projection to 9.6 per cent for 2021 calendar year from its earlier estimate of 13.9 per cent, and said faster Covid vaccination will be paramount in restricting economic losses to June quarter.

The US-based rating agency said high-frequency economic indicators show that the second wave of Covid-19 infections hit India's economy in April and May. With states now easing restrictions, economic activity in May is likely to signify the trough, it said in a report on India.

"The virus resurgence adds uncertainty to India's growth forecast for 2021; however, it is likely that the economic damage will remain restricted to the April-June

# Govt liberalises guidelines for voice BPO industry

## PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government on Wednesday announced liberalisation of guidelines for other service providers (OSPs) and said that the move would position India as a strong global destination for voice BPOs.

The distinction between domestic and international OSPs has been removed.

A BPO centre with common telecom resources will now be able to serve customers located worldwide including in India. The easing of guidelines would lead to cost-saving and better utilisation for BPO companies. With removal of the distinction between domestic and international OSP centres, the interconnectivity between all types of OSP centres, is now permitted. "We have today extensively liberalised OSP guidelines... This revolutionary step will make India a global destination for BPOs," Communications Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad told reporters.

# UK HC rejects Nirav Modi's extradition plea

## HAS 5 DAYS TO APPEAL FOR ORAL HEARING

### PTI ■ LONDON

Nirav Modi has lost the first stage of his extradition appeal in the High Court here, just over two months after the wanted diamond merchant's extradition to India was ordered by UK Home Secretary Priti Patel in the estimated USD 2-billion Punjab National Bank (PNB) scam case.

The case was before a High Court judge for a decision "on the papers" submitted for the appeal to determine if there are any grounds for an appeal against the Home Secretary's decision on April 16 or the Westminster Magistrates Court February ruling in favour of Modi's extradition to India to face charges of fraud and money laundering.

A High Court official confirmed that the permission to appeal was "rejected on paper" on Tuesday, which leaves the

# DoT allocates 5G trial spectrum to MTNL

## PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Department of Telecom on Wednesday allocated the spectrum for 5G field trials to the state-owned telecom firm MTNL with C-DoT as its technology partner, according to an official source.

Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea were given the spectrum in May to conduct 5G trials across select cities in India.

"(The) DoT has allocated spectrum to MTNL for 5G trials in Delhi. It will conduct trials in partnership with C-DoT," the official source told PTI. The state-owned telecom firm will conduct trials in the Najafgarh area of Delhi.

According to the DoT, 5G technology is expected to deliver 10 times better download speed than that of 4G and up to three times greater spectrum efficiency. The duration of the trials at present is six months. This includes a time period of two months for procurement and the setting up of the equipment.

# FDI in April up 60 pc to USD 4.44 bn: Govt data

## PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Foreign direct investment into India increased by 60 per cent to USD 4.44 billion in April as against USD 2.77 billion in the same month last year, government data showed on Wednesday. Total FDI, including equity, re-invested earnings and capital, rose 38 per cent to USD 6.24 billion in April this year, as against USD 4.53 billion in April 2020, as per the data. "During April, 2021 FDI equity inflows amounting to USD 4.44 billion were reported in the country which is an increase of 60 per cent over the FDI equity inflow of April, 2020 (USD 2.77 billion)," the commerce and industry ministry said in a statement. Measures taken by the government on the fronts of foreign direct investment (FDI) policy reforms, investment facilitation and ease of doing business have resulted in increased FDI inflows into the country, it added.

# NMDC another impressive performance in FY21

India's largest iron ore producer, NMDC has produced 34.15 million tonnes and sold 33.25 million tonnes of iron ore during the financial year 2020-21. This is an 8% growth in production and 6% in sales from the 31.49 million tonnes produced and 31.51 million tonnes sold during FY 2019-20, achieved in an undoubtedly challenging year.

NMDC's turnover for FY 2020-21 is ₹15,370 crore against ₹11,699 crore during FY 2019-20.

# Mask compliance still remains low in India despite most lethal Covid-19 wave: Survey

## PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Mask wearing compliance still remains low in India despite it being one of the worst hit by the second wave of Covid-19, according to findings of a survey.

The mask compliance at vaccination centres also remains low, as per the survey conducted by online social media platform LocalCircles.

"Despite the most lethal Covid-19 wave that any country in the world has experienced so far, India's mask compliance is still low as indicated by the survey finding where 67 per cent of citizens say there is limited or no mask compliance in their area, district, or city," it said.

The survey received over 33,000 responses from citizens located in 312 districts of the country.

According to the survey findings, only 32 per cent of citizens in the survey note that there was limited mask compliance at the vaccination centre they recently visited.

# LIC chairman inaugurates Go Live of e-PGS project

LIC of India crossed another milestone today by embarking upon a new Centralized Web-based Workflow-based IT platform for its Group Business operations. Chairman of LIC of India, MR Kumar inaugurated the Go Live of the project e-PGS in a formal ceremony held today at 10:30.

Hours at Yogakshema, Central Office, Mumbai in the presence of Managing Directors Vipin Anand, Mukesh Gupta, Raj Kumar and S Mohanty. Shri Rakesh Sharma, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of IDBI Bank received the first digital receipt, generated on new IT platform, to the Bank as Master Policy Holder in one of its group policies from the inaugural ceremony was joined online from 204 locations across the entire country.

**DELHI JAL BOARD: DELHI SARKAR**  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SOUTH)-II**  
**JAL SADAN : LAJPAT NAGAR: NEW DELHI- 110024**

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

**NIT NO.04/S-II/2021-22**  
**Press Tender**

S.No.	Name of work	Reserve price	Date of release of tender in e-procurement solution	Last date and time for download & RTGS through e-procurement solution
1	Augmentation of water supply in B-Block, NDSE -II by P.L. 150mm dia Loop line across Ring Road by trenchless technology upto B-Block, NDSE-II under EE(S)II. (AC-42 Kasturba Nagar)	3303712/-	2021_DJB_204757_1 23.6.2021	13.7.2021 upto 2.00 PM

It is for publishing in the leading newspaper please. Further details in this regard can be seen at [govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in](http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in)

ISSUED BY: P.R.O.(WATER)  
Advt.No.J.S.V.135(2021-22)

(S.Ghulam Sajjad)  
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SOUTH)II

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

It is notified for the information of rail passengers that Railways have revised the timings of the Special Trains on below mentioned stations as under :-

Train No. & Name	Station	Existing Time		Revised Time		Date
		ARR.	DEP.	ARR.	DEP.	
08237 Korba - Amritsar Junction Special Express Train	Kosikalana	17:16	17:18	17:23	17:25	with immediate effect
02883 Durg - Hazrat Nizamuddin Superfast Special Express Train	Jhansi	02:10	02:20	02:15	02:25	

**NOTE :** The time-table at other stations of the above special trains will hold good.

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

For any kind of information such as arrival/departure timings and stoppages enroute, the passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or may visit Indian Railways website <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or NTES App.

**RailMadad Helpline No. 139**  
Please visit RailMadad website: [www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in) & download Railmadad app.

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SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

**PREMIUM MERCHANTS LIMITED**

Registered office: Omaxe Square, Plot No. 14, 5th Floor, Jasola District Centre, Jasola, New Delhi-110025  
CIN: L51909DL1985PLC021077.Tel: +91 11 61119658  
Email Id: [premiummerchants123@gmail.com](mailto:premiummerchants123@gmail.com), website [www.pmltd.com](http://www.pmltd.com)

**NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the meeting no. 02/2021-22 of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on 30th June, 2021 (Wednesday) at the registered office of the Company at Omaxe Square, Plot No. 14, Jasola District Centre, Jasola, New Delhi-110025 at 4.00 PM to discuss the following agenda items:

- To take on record the Audited Financial Results of the Company for the Financial Year ended on 31st March, 2021 in terms of Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirement) Regulation, 2015.
- To discuss any other business with the permission of chair.

By Order of the Board  
For Premium Merchants Limited  
Sd/-  
Balbir Singh  
Director

DIN:00027438  
Place: New Delhi  
Dated: 23.06.2021

**UJVN Ltd.**  
(An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprises)  
H.O. "UJWAL" Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Behradun-248006  
Telephone: 0135-2763808 Fax: 0135-2763508  
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866 Website: [www.ujvn.com](http://www.ujvn.com)

**RO No. 471 Tender Notice** Date: 23.06.2021

Office of the Executive Engineer (E&M) SHP, UJVN Ltd., Rishikesh, invites sealed tender from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:

**Tender No.:- NIT No.02/EE(E&M) (SHP)/Rishikesh/2021-22**  
**Name of Work/Supply/Service etc. :-** "Supply, fixing and testing of vector surge protection relay and associated items in RPN SHP (2 X 750 kW Dunaon) in District Pauri Garhwal and Pilangad SHP (2x1125 kW) in Distt Uttarakashi"

**Estimated Cost:- Rs. 6,27,760.00 (Including GST)**  
**Date of availability of bid document on web site:- 23.06.2021**  
**Last date for submission of Tender:- 24.07.2021 up to 17.00 Hrs.**  
For full & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from Nigam's website [www.ujvn.com](http://www.ujvn.com)

**Executive Engineer (E&M)(SHP), Rishikesh**

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**

General public is hereby informed that one male namely Unknown, S/O Unknown, R/O Unknown, Age 35 years, Height 5', Complexion Shallow, Face Round, Built Medium, Wearing Red colour shirt, sky blue colour jeans pant and bare footed was found injured Near Wazirabad Bridge, Delhi on 31.05.21, during treatment he got expired. In this regard a case FIR No. 367/21 dated 01.06.21 U/S 279/337 IPC has been registered at PS Wazirabad, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this male deceased may be kindly inform to the undersigned.

**SHO**  
**PS: Wazirabad, Delhi**  
**Ph.: 8750870131**

DP/1290/N/21

**Office of the Executive Engineer, Sub Transmission Division Doda Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDC), Jammu Power Development Department**  
Email: [xenstdoda@gmail.com](mailto:xenstdoda@gmail.com), Tel No. 01996-295112, CIN No. U40300JK2013SGC003898

**e-NIT No. - STD/Doda/Capex/2021-22/ 09 of 2021, dated: - 11.06.2021**

**INVITATION**

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir, the Executive Engineer Sub Transmission Division Doda - JPDC, hereinafter referred as 'Employer', invites online e-bids from reputed Companies or Class 'A' registered contractors for 'Design, Engineering, Manufacture, Survey, Supply, Transportation, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of 1x3.15 MVA, 33/11KV Receiving Station at Bhalra, Bhaderwah in District Doda.' under the jurisdiction of Executive Engineer, Sub Transmission Division Doda, JPDC, Jammu.

1. Bidders are advised to study the Bidding Document carefully. Submission of e-Bid against this SBD shall be deemed to have been done after careful/conscious study and examination of the procedures, terms and conditions of the Standard Bidding Document with full understanding of its implications.

2. The tender document is available at website <http://ktenders.gov.in>. Interested Bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below:-

**A. Tender Document Sale/Download Start Date:- 14.06.2021 10.00AM**  
**B. Clarification start and end date:- 14.06.2021 10.00AM to 16.06.2021 05.00PM**  
**C. Tender Document Sale/Download End Date:- 07.07.2021 UPTO 04.00 PM**  
**D. e-Bid submission (start) date & time:- 17.06.2021 10.00AM**  
**E. e-Bid submission (end) date & time:- 07.07.2021 UPTO 4:00PM**

Sd/- (Er. Jarnail Singh)  
Executive Engineer,  
Sub Transmission Division,  
JPDC, Doda.

No. DIP/J-1236-P/21 Dated : 22-06-2021

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

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

The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Jankey Bhallabh Soni, Prashant Kumar, N 1408 Prateek Laurel Sec 120, Noida, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:- LBNOD00002374209	Plot No- C-8-06, Soni Palm City Sector- 32 32a Buddha Khara Village, Karnal, Haryana	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 46,93,051/-	31/10/2016
2.	Jatinder Kaur Kharbada, Harminder Singh, 13/7, C-Block 37 Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi, A/c No:- LBNOD00001946597	Flat No- LD 1 03, 1901, The Kove Jaypee Greens Sports City, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 40,31,697/-	31/03/2016
3.	Jitender Kumar Ahuja, Payal Ahuja, House No- 15 B, 1st Floor Blk Nit No- 5 Nr Garden, Faridabad, Haryana A/c No:- LBNOD00002206955	Flat No- 05B, 1st Floor, Block- K Amritsar One, Shubham Enclave, Gt Road Village, Daburji, Amritsar, Punjab	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 35,25,737/-	30/04/2019
4.	Kapil Kumar Jain, Sachin Jain, 66 Old Anarkali, Krishna Nagar Delhi-51, Delhi, New Jersey A/c No:- LBNOD00001932421	KRH 0122204, Wishtown, Krescent Homes, Jaypee Greens Sector-129, Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 69,83,709.7/-	31/10/2017
5.	Kautilya Srivastava, Kamal Narain Srivastava, E 25 Second Floor, Lajpat Nagar, Delhi, Haryana A/c No:- LBDEL000002443876	Flat No 1101, 11th Floor, Tower C, Circuit Heights, Plot No Gha G4 Sec- 25 Jaypee Sport Sinter National Yeida Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 32,77,437/-	30/04/2017
6.	Amitkumar, Geeta, 211 Bamnoli Village, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00002058717	Flat No- 603, 6th Floor, Block B, Nikhil Park Royale, Mauza Chamrauli, Kharsa No 209, 210, Mauza Chamrauli, Taj Ganj Ward, Agra, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 44,19,723.93/-	31/08/2017
7.	Kumar Kundan, Kumar Sudarasan, 10 A 109 Dayanand Colony, Lajpat Nagar, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00003092569	Flat No 2005, Tower E, 20th Floor, Plot No Gh- 01, Misty Height S Sec- Sports City Adjoining Tech Zone- Iv Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 62,12,422/-	31/07/2018
8.	Manas Gandhi, Mahesh Kumar Gandhi, 6/15 2nd Floor Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00001955058	Unit Reference No- LDI- 04 1201, The Kove Jaypee Greens City, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 48,71,811/-	31/10/2016
9.	Maneesh Tiwari, Nivedita Tiwari, Flat No- 202, Tower 10, Silver Citysec- 93A, Noida, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:- LBNOD00001893983	Flat No- KRH0010402, Krescent Homes, Jaypee Greens, Sector-129, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 98,16,208/-	31/12/2017
10.	Manish Kumarjha, Jyothi Jha, 12/18 3rd Floor Ashoka Road Shipra Suncity Indrapuram, Ghaziabad, A/c No:- LBGHZ00002172686	Flat No 2001, 20th Floor, Tower D, Mascot Soho Manorath, Plot No Gh- 4b/1, Sector 16, Greater Noida West - Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 53,32,887/-	30/04/2018
11.	Mirza Ashraf Beg, Farooza Bano, Flat- 2602, Uae Alshikhim Fatema, Bnt Mobark Mirza Ash Ratbeg, Sharjah, Uae A/c No:- LBNOD00001880529	Flat No KM72A902, Kosmos Jaypee Green, Sec-129 And 134, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 50,41,117.6/-	31/03/2017
12.	Mohammad Ayoub Khan, Mohammad Ismail Khan, 32 III H Nehru Nagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:- LBNOD00002043941	KS3-33-202, 2nd Floor, Kasia Jaypee Greens Sports City, Sector-128, Gautam Budh Nagar Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 38,66,014/-	30/09/2017
13.	Mohit Nakra, Shweta Nakra, H No D- 346, Sector- 47, Noida, A/c No:- LBNOD00001981408	KUBOO524011, Kube Jaypee Greens, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 84,69,062/-	31/10/2018
14.	Mukesh Jangpangi, Ganga Jangpangi, 370 Top Floor Chirag Delhi, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00001918946	Appts No- 0403, 4th Floor, Tower B3, The Residences, Unitech GHP 0001, Sector- 117, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 43,70,285.1/-	31/05/2018
15.	Mukesh Jangpangi, Ganga Jangpangi, 370 Top Floor Chirag Delhi, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00001929847	Appts No- 0403, 4th Floor, Tower B3, The Residences, Unitech GHP 0001, Sector- 117, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 52,938/-	31/05/2018
16.	Namrata Kataria, Avesh Kumar, C-311 312 Nayay Khand lind Indrapuram, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:- LBNOD00002850869	Flat No 1104, 11th Floor, Tower- C , Bulland Calisto, Plot No Gh- 02B-1, Sector- 10, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 9,90,982/-	31/07/2018
17.	Naveen Kumar, Anita Rani, 100 Ground Floor Shakari Nagar Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:- LBNOD00002279699	Flat No 2101, 21st Floor, Block K1, Imperial Greens, Plot No Gh 01B, Sector 16, Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 42,96,165/-	31/12/2018
18.	Naveen Naveen, usha Rani, B- 69 Sewak Park Uttam Nagar, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00002075979	Flat No- 1117-B, 11th Floor, Tower- 9, Chinar Homes, Kishanpurazirakpur, Zirakpur, Punjab	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 76,50,029/-	13/10/2014
19.	Neeraj Vats, Dbs Infosoft Solutions Pvt Ltd, Varsha Vats, 4/72 Ashok Mohalla Nanngli, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00002055445	Unit NOKM00161705, Flat No. 1705, 17th Floor, Tower Km-16, Kosmos Wishtown Noida At Jaypee Greens Noida, Sector 128, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 54,53,928.4/-	31/07/2016
20.	Nirmal Sagar, Shiv Shankar, H. No-90P Nr. Uniworld Opp., of Mordenmart Sector- 41, Gurgaon, Haryana A/c No:- LBDEL00002028874	Flat No- T2-603, 6th Floor, IBD Belmont Park, Treasure, Kelod Halaindoret-2- 603, Indore, Madhya Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 95,48,293/-	30/09/2015
21.	Nisha Singh, Priyanka Harish Chawla, House No. 116-117, Top Floor Pocket- 3, Sector-25 Rohini, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00002895023	Flat No F020403, 17th Floor, Tower F02, Sare Green Parc, Phase 2 Vill Wazirpur Mewka Sec 92, Gurgaon, Haryana	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 70,33,282/-	31/05/2019
22.	Pankaj Sood, Pooja Sood, H No-156 Durga Nagar Ambala Cantt, Ambala, A/c No:- LBGUR00002047143	Plot No 1, Street No 82 B-11, Second Floor, Sector- 82B, Vatika India, Gurgaon, Haryana	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 77,90,975/-	31/07/2018
23.	Parmanand, Luxmi, 181/3 Sec-10 Road, Gurgaon, Haryana A/c No:- LBGUR00001983343	1706 17th Floor, T16, Green Par C-2, Sector 92, Gurgaon, Haryana	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 69,00,784/-	31/05/2016
24.	Pawan Kumar Verma, Dhiraj Kumari, B-1449/115, Durga Puri, Street No-3 Shahdra, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh A/c No:- LBDEL00001955386	Property No- FL3FU, A2-06-0606, Flat No. 0606, Tower-A2, Unitech Unihomes- 3, Sector-113 Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 21,04,155/-	31/05/2019
25.	Manish Raj, Pushp Lata Sinha, F-298, 3rd Floor, Lado Sarai, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00002133789	Flat No 1218, 12th Floor, Tower C, 16th Park View Gaur Yamuna City, Pocket-3 Mirzapur Site, Sector 19, Ahmednagarayida Yamuna Expressway, B/h Raghvendra Mandir, Adhav Mala, Bholgaon, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 26,03,497/-	28/02/2017
26.	Pradeep Sharma, Sharda Sharma, J-626, Kartar Nagar- Block Near Viral Garga House, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00002861126	Flat No A 22, 22nd Floor, Tower 9, Ryne, Plot No Gh-06A, Sector- CHI- Vgreater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 28,62,227.99/-	31/05/2019
27.	Pritpal Singh, paramjeet Kaur, 253, Gali No- 5 Bhol Nath Nagar Shahdra, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00001218260	Flat No- 227 A, Type- B, Pocket- E, 6F, Ground Floor Type- Anand Nagri, Delhi, Delhi	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 9,95,551/-	30/04/2017
28.	Priyanka Jain, Rahul Jain, D1804 Anrapali Platinum Sec 119 Noida, G B Nagar, Noida, A/c No:- LBNOD00003091093	Flat No 405, 4th Floor, Tower D, Misty Heights, Plot No- GH-01, Sec- Adjoining Techzone- Iv Greater Noida, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 36,39,753/-	30/04/2019
29.	Raghavendra Madhu, Geetha Madhu, H No- 88 Flat No- B-2kh No 20/1 S/F Savitri Nagar, Delhi, A/c No:- LBDEL00002013530	BS204C0602, Flat No C602, 6th Floor, Tower- 4, Studios- II Jaypee Greens Sports City East, Pocket- Gh-04, Buddh Circuit, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 8,02,601/-	31/12/2017
30.	Raj Mohan, Lalitha Shanmugam, I-11 South Moti Bagh Nanakpuri, Delhi, A/c No:- LBNOD00002028820	Flat No 312-B, 3rd Floor, Tower- 6, Chinar Homes Sector- 20, Village Kishanpura, Chandigarh, Punjab	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 1,20,72,291/-	13/10/2014
31.	Rajat Rastogi, Samarath Rastogi, D-147 2nd Floor Prashant Vihar, Delhi, A/c No:- LBGHZ00001935524	Appartment No GD10252703, 27th Floor, Wishtown Noida, Garden Isles Jaypee Greens, Sector-133, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 28,91,391.5/-	31/10/2017
32.	Rajesh Kumar Singh, Brajesh Kumar Singh, Rz-729/A Ugf, Gali No 11 Raj Nagar Part- 2, Deep Parmarth School Palam Village, Delhi, A/c No:- LBGUR00002417418	Unit No 2006, 20th Floor, Tower B, Unnati The Aranya Residency, Gh-2, Sector 119 Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 73,57,668.30/-	28/02/2019
33.	Sunit Agarwal, Neelam Agarwal, G-4/5 Ground Floor Rama Park, Mahan Garden, Uttam Nagar, Delhi, Haryana A/c No:- LBDEL00001981491	Unit No- 0701 Floor 7, Tower- 0D1, Block- 00D, Unihomes- 3, Sector 113, Noida, Uttar Pradesh	01-Apr-2021, Rs. 14,22,109.16/-	31/03/2019
34.	Rajinder Singh, sharmila Devi, H. No.- 10, Gali No 02, Pataudi Road, Gurgaon, Haryana A/c No:- LBDEL00000386987	H No 10, Gali No-2, Pataudi Road, Delhi, Delhi	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 10,50,017.41/-	08/08/2014
35.	Rajinder Singh, Sharmila Devi, H. No. 10, Gali No - 2, Pataudi Road, Gurgaon, Haryana A/c No:- LBDEL00000386988	H No 10, Gali No-2, Pataudi Road, Gurgaon, Haryana	03-Apr-2021, Rs. 11,17,286/-	08/08/2014

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

Date : June 24, 2021  
Place: Delhi/NCR

Authorized Officer  
ICICI Bank Limited



## Regional rules digital waves

**ANANT ROONGTA** says that localised content has been taking centre stage on OTT platforms

As the diversity in content takes centre stage, OTT as an industry has reached new heights. For the global entertainment scene, the past year has been a mixed bag. After rigorous turmoil, the industry partially got back on its feet because of the rise of OTT consumption. With the advent of work from home culture, coupled with outdoor restriction, streaming platforms witnessed a jump in subscription revenue. Interestingly, after a few years of launch, OTT platforms reached a new level of subscription revenue when compared to the broadcast industry which took years to gain the current levels. This, in turn, has provided an opportunity to not only experiment with content but also create something that resonates with the audience.

### Wider growth

With hyperactive internet users and increased internet penetration in the country, studios and platforms are creating storylines inspired by people's behaviour in the region. The notable thing here is that the content is either dubbed in multiple languages with the scripts and references that make people connect with a show across the country or it is created for a specific region. A good example of that would be MX Player's *Samantar* that has a suspenseful storyline that any Maharashtrian could relate to. Such regional content is especially consumed in the native areas of the country amidst the digital progression and easy availability of smartphones at an affordable price.

Regional content creation has its advantages, an immersive storyline could potentially be created at 30-40 per cent lower cost with larger viewership. Consumption of regional content is expected to double, with over a billion of the population having a smartphone by the next decade. Currently, streaming services have more subscribers than people with a cable connection. As per a report by FICCI, regional languages will make up 60 per cent of television consumption by 2025 from around 55 per cent in 2020 and around 50 per cent of streaming video consumption from 30 per cent in 2019. Keeping the demand for regional content in mind, big media platforms like Amazon Prime Video, Zee5, Hotstar and Voot are keen on producing regional content for the masses.

### Scope

Regional markets have a lot of potential and scope in the future because many of them are underserved, which means there's room for growth. Due to the increase in demand, marketers have realised that simply dubbing Hindi or English advertising into local languages will no longer suffice, therefore they have started including modest local language additions to their ads or are attempting to compose local language scripts in English. With digital platforms making significant progress in terms of content creation — as they seek new methods to thrill their audiences — local material will receive a significant boost, which will benefit regional cinema greatly.

### Future of the digital era

The consumption of digital content has unquestionably expanded dramatically over time. People have been riveted to the screen for Marathi comedy, south-Indian action, Bengali crime thrillers, and romantic narratives in all languages, and OTT platforms have recently discovered that regional shows are attracting the most viewers. The consumption of regional material is expected to increase in the next few years, particularly on streaming platforms, as non-metro audiences continue to lead internet user growth.

(The author is managing director of a film studio which was set up in 1946.)

# MELTING BOUNDARIES

Actors are no longer defined by the medium they most often dabble in. By TEAM VIVA

So many performers are today flexing their acting prowess with equal ease on, both, streaming platforms and films. Here is our pick of five of such versatile talents:

### Mukul Chadda

Mukul left New York and a thriving career as a banker because his heart craved for a life in the arts. He arrived in Mumbai without a blueprint for his future but memories of doing theatre in college and attending classes at the Lee



Strasberg Theatre and Film Institute began to guide his choices. He soon found himself working in films like *Ek Main Aur Ekk Tu*, *Island City*, *I, Me Aur Main* et al along with shows like *Bichoo Ka Khel* and *Gurgaon*. He also played a jovial and rather clueless boss in the Indian adaptation of the popular American sitcom, *The Office*. This month, he is celebrating the release of an OTT series, *Sunflower* and the much-awaited film *Sherni*. In the former, which is a dark crime comedy, he plays a rather mercurial, short-tempered character and in *Sherni*, he portrays a rather unimaginative spouse who believes his wife's government job is a 'recession-



proof' meal ticket for life. Chadda is emerging as an actor who can effortlessly adapt to cinematic and OTT narratives without missing a beat.

### Radhika Apte

From someone who made her debut in 2005 with a fleeting appearance in a now-forgotten film, *Vaah! Life Ho Toh Aisi!*, Radhika has grown enormously to become the unofficial queen of OTT productions and an acclaimed film actor, be it in commercial hits like *Badlapur* and *Andhadhun* or an independent film like *Raat Akeli Hai*. Many credit her with changing the scope and span of female performances in OTT shows. Her ability to exude both charisma and earthy simplicity has seen her churn out flawless performances in titles as diverse as *Manjhi - The Mountain Man*, *Parched*, *Phobia*, *Pad Man*, *Lust Stories*, *Bazaar*, *A Call To Spy*, *Stories by Rabindranath Tagore*, *Ghoul*, and *Sacred Games*. Along the way, she has scooped up various awards and also gar-

nered critical and popular appreciation.

### Sayani Gupta

This graduate from the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), is truly a new-age star whose unconventional choices have resulted in a very interesting creative journey. Sayani made her debut in 2012 in *Second Marriage Dot Com* but her breakout role was as the visually-challenged love interest of

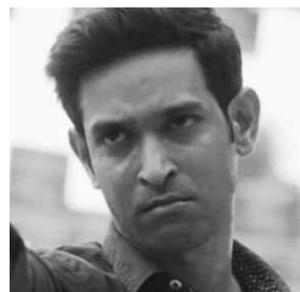


Kalki Koechlin in Shonali Bose's acclaimed film, *Margarita With A Straw*. She gave another noticeable performance, as part of the ensemble cast, in Leena Yadav's *Parched*. In Anubhav Sinha's, *Article 15*, her wrenching histrionics gave the film much of its truthfulness. In films like *Axone*, *Jolly LLB 2*, *Fan*, and *Baar Baar Dekho*, her presence was unmistakable and each performance was different from the other. She also went on to command stardom in the OTT hit *Four more shots please!*. Sayani has

demonstrated time and again that, as an actor, she will never let herself be boxed in a specific genre or format.

### Vikrant Massey

Vikrant's journey has been chequered and spans diverse platforms. Starting with the 2004 television series, *Kahaan Hoon Main*, he tried his best to adapt to the entertainment trends of the day by working in shows like *Dharam Veer*, *Balika Vadhu*, *Baba Aiso Varr Dhoondo*, and *Qubool Hai*. His debut film appearance in *Lootera* (2014), and then a role in *Dil Dhadakne Do* (2015) showed us a glimpse of the actor who has more potential than he has been given credit for. With 2017's critically acclaimed film *A Death In The Gunj*, he



showed what an accomplished actor he really is and even won a Filmfare Award nomination in the category of Best Actor - Critics. In the OTT space, he has carved a niche for himself with success stories like *Mirzapur*, *Criminal Justice* and in the second seasons of *Broken But Beautiful*. And bigger film roles are also coming his way, including the lead role opposite Deepika Padukone in

*Chhapaak* (2020) and a starring role in the recent *Ginni Weds Sunny*, opposite Yami Gautam.

### Jaideep Ahlawat

For this FTII graduate, the success of his idol, Irrfan Khan, was a beacon in the dark years he spent struggling for meaty roles. In 2008, Jaideep made his debut in a short film *Narmeen* and went on to play many small parts till his role as Shahid Khan in *Gangs of Wasseypur* (2012) and as Khalid Mir in *Raazi* (2017) got him some much-deserved attention. But stardom and a Filmfare award came



with the Anushka Sharma-produced web series *Paatal Lok*. This performance truly heralded his arrival as a star who could lead a show as its protagonist. Even in an anthology like *Ajeeb Daastaans*, he stood out for his portrayal of a gay man who is unable to embrace his sexuality openly. Today he is being offered diverse roles in OTT productions as well as films. Even as Jaideep treads a path that was painstakingly carved by predecessors like Irrfan and Manoj Bajpayee, there is no doubt that he has already created a success story that is uniquely his own.

Since the pandemic has taken over, most of our lives have been consumed by the digital world. Be it work, entertainment or socialising, digital screens have become an indispensable part of everyday life.

Excessive screen time is putting an enormous strain on your eyes, which can be really harmful in the long run.

Want to combat increased screen time in easy and effective ways? Read on for five ways to give your eyes a protective detox from digital screens.

### Use eyeglasses with BLU-cut lenses

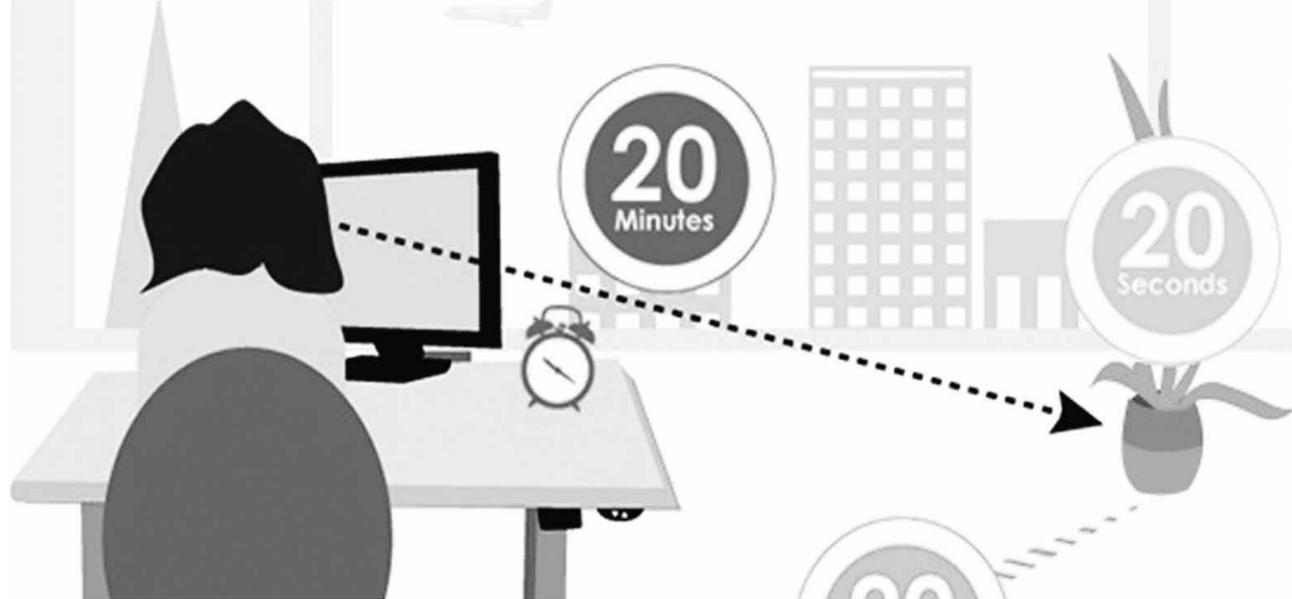
This one is a must-have if you are part of the WFH team. If excessive screen time is absolutely unavoidable for you because of work, this is the solution for you. Eyeglasses with BLU-cut or computer lenses are an easy and effective way to protect your eyes. These lenses keep at bay the harmful effects of blue rays emanating from digital screens. These not only add protection and functionality to your work life but also undeniable style for the virtual meetings you attend throughout the day. Check out John Jacobs' high-quality yet affordable BLU eyeglasses range to balance out excessive screen time. Give your eyes the digital detox they deserve.

### Reduce screen brightness on all devices

Adjusting screen brightness to suit the time of the day and your lifestyle is an easy way to reduce eye strain. Almost every digital device available today has settings for night mode and yellow light. These can be automated to custom timings and aligned with your schedule seamlessly. Lux is an interesting app available for android devices that allows you to customise and adjust your screen brightness. It has features like renowned blue light filtering with easy navigation guides and a smooth, simple interface.

### Take frequent breaks from the screen

Sometimes, there is nothing more effective and relaxing for



## Visual relief

Ever get a nasty headache in the middle of a workday? Do your eyes start watering while binge-watching your favourite series? TEAM VIVA is here with some helpful suggestions to help your sore eyeballs

your eyes than a good ol' fashioned coffee break! Give your eyes rest in between work meetings and assignments and chill with a cuppa. Listen to calming music or simply meditate on your day — but keep the phone down and let your laptop go to sleep for a 15-minute periodic break every now and then. This will not only boost your productivity but also combat watering or burning eyes that occur due to continuous and uninterrupted screen exposure. We love Country Bean's aromatic and innovative flavours for our much needed coffee breaks!

### Increase the font size on your devices

A lot of what we do on our screens involves reading. Almost every digital device today has settings that allow you to adjust font size. Larger font size is essential to ensure that all the other measures you take for protecting your eyes work together in harmony. This helps you relax your eyesight and reduce the strain.

Techlicious' guide on how to increase text size on phones, tablets and computers is a handy read for this purpose.

### Use The 20-20-20 rule



Here's a recommendation straight from the ophthalmologist's office! You must be wondering, what is the 20-20-20 rule? It recommends that digital screen users divert their attention from screens every 20 minutes and look at objects 20 feet away for 20 seconds. This one really works and is

advised as an add-on even when you wear computer eyeglasses and switch the night mode on in your devices. Download the Eye Care 20 20 20 app, it automates the process for you when you are working or watching something and makes it super easy to follow this useful tip. Balancing work, entertain-

ment and social life are essential. However, it's equally important, if not more, to take care of our health. Luckily, these simple hacks can help us all effectively combat the negative effects of increased screen exposure. Go on, give your eyes a better chance to last in the long run.

## TRENDBLAZER



### JOINING A SELECT LIST: VIDYUT

Actor **VIDYUT JAMWAL** has signed with the reputed Hollywood talent management agency Wonder Street, known to represent international action heroes such as Tony Jaa, Michael Jaa White and Dolph Lundgren.

"I'm excited to be associated with some of the hardest working people of Hollywood," Vidyut said, of his new association.

### fairtalk

BADSHAH



"Yes. I truly believe in the power and magic of India, its culture, especially its music and instruments that so frequently end up being lost in this new digital age. It is our responsibility as representatives to keep this magic alive and represent this richness to the world and bring India on the world map."

### dailytalk

AMIT MASURKAR



"*Sherni* was a difficult film to score because of the complex intersections in the story. I felt safe with Naren Chandavarkar and Benedict Taylor because I knew they would put the story and the theme first. They have the sensitivity and depth to understand a layered narrative."

### JUST SOME TOUGH LOVE: DIESEL

Actor **VIN DIESEL** has spoken out about the reported feud between him and Dwayne Johnson.

The subject came to light in the July/August 2021 issue of *Men's Health* magazine, where Diesel opened up about Dwayne's involvement in the *Fast & Furious* franchise.

He said, "The role played by Johnson was a tough one to embody. I had a lot of tough love for him to get the perfect performance."



# STAR WARS



With just two goals scored, England are the lowest-scoring side to ever top a group at a Euros but their defence is yet to be breached

## JOB DONE FOR ENGLAND

AFP ■ LONDON

Raheem Sterling scored the only goal as England found an attacking spark to beat the Czech Republic 1-0 at Wembley on Tuesday and clinch top spot in Group D at Euro 2020.

The Manchester City forward, who kept his place alongside Harry Kane in a rejigged attack also featuring Jack Grealish and Bukayo Saka, settled fans' nerves with an early headed goal, which ultimately proved decisive.

The result means Gareth Southgate's side finish top of their group with seven points while Croatia are second with



Raheem Sterling (10) scores England's opening goal against Czech Republic on Tuesday

©England

four points. The Czech Republic will join them in the last 16 as one of the best third-placed teams.

With just two goals scored, England are the lowest-scoring side to ever finish top of a group at a European Championship but their defence is yet to be breached.

England now have the dubious privilege of a potential match-up against world champions France, holders Portugal or Germany but will have home advantage on June 29.

"We are not fluent but we have moments where we look a good side," Southgate told ITV.

"Different sorts of tests. All of our next opponents will be different games. There is a lot of good things we are doing. We are getting minutes for a lot of the players. Ninety minutes for Harry Maguire was important tonight. Jordan Henderson getting 45 minutes is a step forward. A lot of positives."

### GREALISH STARTS

There was clamour before the match for Aston Villa captain Grealish to start to shake up a blunt attack that produced an insipid display in the 0-0 draw against Scotland.

Southgate obliged, also

bringing in Saka among four changes to his side.

Chelsea midfielder Mason Mount was unavailable as he was isolating due to coronavirus protocols while Southgate opted to leave Phil Foden out to prevent the risk of a suspension.

Manchester United defender Maguire made his first appearance of Euro 2020 alongside John Stones in central defence.

England started brightly in the evening sunshine and Sterling went agonisingly close in just the second minute but could only watch as his deft chip over the goalkeeper come back

off the post after he collected a raking pass from Luke Shaw.

As chants of "Football's Coming Home" rang around the stadium, captain Kane — heavily criticised for his toothless performances in the tournament so far — shot from distance and Grealish let fly.

England broke the deadlock in the 12th minute, when Grealish, on the left side of the penalty area, lifted the ball to the back post, where Sterling headed in for his second goal of Euro 2020.

Grealish and Man-Of-The-Match Saka were inventive and direct on either side of Kane, showing a willingness to run at their opponents.

Kane went close midway through the first half, forcing a fine left-handed save from Tomas Vaclik and thumping the ground in frustration.

But the Czechs carried a threat of their own on their forays forward, growing in menace as the half wore on.

Tomas Holes forced a flying save from England goalkeeper Jordan Pickford just before the half-hour and Tomas Soucek fired wide of the left post.

Liverpool midfielder Henderson replaced Declan Rice at half-time and the Czechs made their own change, bringing on Petr Sevcik for Jakub Jankto.

The sides were evenly matched in the second half, with the reduced crowd making an impressive noise in the cavernous stadium.

Both sides made further changes as the match wore on and the intensity dipped, with fans having to wait until the 83rd minute for the first attempt at goal in the second half.

Henderson briefly thought he had scored his first England goal late on but it was ruled out for offside.



Croatia captain Luka Modric, center, celebrates after scoring his side's second goal against Scotland

AP

## Modric breaks Scotland hearts

AFP ■ GLASGOW

Scotland's shot at reaching the knockout stage of a major tournament for the first time were ended in a 3-1 defeat to a Luka Modric-inspired Croatia at Hampden Park on Tuesday that took the World Cup runners-up into the last 16 of Euro 2020.

After ending a 23-year wait just to qualify for a major tournament, another historic feat was beyond Steve Clarke's men who were undone by a moment of magic from Modric.

Callum McGregor cancelled out Nikola Vlasic's early opener to give the hosts hope heading into half-time.

But Modric showed the class that made him the man to break Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo's grip on the Ballon d'Or in 2018, a stunning strike with the outside of his foot just after the hour mark restoring Croatia's lead.

"No one is sure how Luka manages that," Croatia boss

Zlatko Dalic said of the 35-year-old.

"We expect that Luka will go down, lose his strength, but he is the force that pulls the whole team. Anything I would say about Luka would not be sufficient. I'm very proud to have such a player as part of our team."

Ivan Perisic's header rubbed salt into Scottish wounds 13 minutes from time as Croatia pipped the Czech Republic to second place in Group D behind England.

Zlatko Dalic's side will face the runner-up from Group E, featuring Spain, Sweden, Slovakia and Poland, in Copenhagen next Monday.

Scotland's preparation had been blighted by the loss of Billy Gilmour to a positive test for coronavirus after the 20-year-old midfielder had shone on his first international start in 0-0 draw against England on Friday.

But Clarke's squad escaped without any other players being

forced to isolate as close contacts and, roared on by 12,000 fans inside Hampden, started on the front foot.

Che Adams was inches away from connecting with John McGinn's dangerous cross that Dominik Livakovic did well to turn behind for a corner.

Croatia had barely threatened before they went in front on 17 minutes.

Perisic headed down a lofted ball into the box and Vlasic found space between three Scotland defenders to fire low into the corner.

Croatia then had the hosts chasing shadows for 10 minutes as the midfield maestros of Modric, Marcelo Brozovic and Mateo Kovacic took control of the game.

"Modric was incredible," said Arsenal defender Kieran Tierney. "I think tonight was a big learning curve for us all. They've been there before, the quality they showed it was hard for us to get going."

## Kiwis inch closer towards WTC title

NZ need 139 runs to win the inaugural edition

PTI ■ SOUTHAMPTON

Rishabh Pant lived by the sword and died by it while his India seniors found it difficult to survive against a probing New Zealand attack, which left its batsmen with a gettable 139-run target to win the World Test Championship final.

By tea on the sixth and final day, India had another batting disaster with only 170 runs in their second innings leaving New Zealand with a target that they are expected to chase.

At tea, New Zealand were 19 for no loss with 120 runs to get in 45 overs in the final session. If New Zealand manage to win it with a session left, they would certainly be considered deserving winners, being able to force a result despite two full days being lost due to rain.

It was one of the worst batting performances on a good track with sun beating down and the Indian batsmen never found the going get easier.

Kane Williamson is proba-



India's Ajinkya Rahane walks back to pavilion after he gets out on Day 6

AP

bly one of the few captains who have now got Indian team out for less than 250 in six consecutive innings, a testimony to his brilliant cricketing acumen and near perfect execution by his bowlers.

Tim Southee (4/48) did the early damage with his swing bowling. Neil Wagner (1/44) bowled those hard 'rib cage' overs coming round the stumps and Trent Boult (3/44) with his ability to bring it back into the left-hander made it for a brilliant few hours of Test cricket.

And then, India's nemesis Kyle Jamieson (2/30), who again got his 'bunny' Virat Kohli, third time in three Tests and twice in one to make it an icing on the cake.

Rishabh Pant fought for two and half hours for his 41 but it was more intent and less content as a cavalier devil may care approach didn't get him too many runs.

The catch that Henry Nicholls took while running backwards was as good as one would witness at this level. Pant's dismissal did hamper India's chances but before that an inspirational piece of captaincy from Williamson left an indelible mark.

He got Wagner to come round that wicket to Jadeja and the left-arm 'pounder' went wide enough to nearly cut the side crease and angled one for

Jadeja to nick it behind the stumps.

Before that delivery, he had bowled short balls pegging the batsmen on backfoot and then ensured that his feet doesn't move to the pitch of the ball.

However Pant's approach of dealing with the New Zealand attack was better than being in the shell, something that did more harm than good for Cheteshwar Pujara (15 off 80 balls).

Before Pujara, the extra bounce outside the off-stump had the Indian skipper feeling for it and B/W Watling got the easiest of catches in his final game for Black Caps.

Pujara, whose abilities of grinding out bowlers has reached mythical proportions and once again he was never looking to score. The pressure was always there and Jamieson fired one in with the angle. Pujara wanted to remove his bat but it seemed the ball tailed him and Taylor got a easy catch.

Ajinkya Rahane (15 off 40 balls) also didn't last long and as it has happened with India often, their tail didn't wag save Mohammed Shami (13), who sashed three fours before Williamson cleverly deployed a 'fly third-man' (neither short third-man nor traditional third man) for a slash over slips which promptly landed in the fielder's palms.

## Jadeja becomes No 1 Test all-rounder

New Delhi: India's Ravindra Jadeja on Wednesday dislodged West Indian Jason Holder as the world's top all-rounder in the latest ICC Test rankings.

Jadeja is two points ahead of Holder (384) while England all-rounder Ben Stokes is third on 377 points. Another Indian, Ravichandran Ashwin is at fourth with 353 points, followed by Shakib Al Hasan of Bangladesh (338).

Ashwin remained at second spot in the bowlers' rankings on 850 points, below Pat Cummins (908) of Australia. Tim Southee (830) of New Zealand is third.

Among the batsmen, there was no change in top-five with Indian captain Virat Kohli static at fourth on 814.



Steve Smith of Australia continued to be the top batsman on 891 points, followed by Kane Williamson (886) of New Zealand and Marnus Labuschagne (878) of

Australia. England captain Joe Root (797) is at number five, followed by the Indian pair of Rishabh Pant and Rohit Sharma at joint at sixth on 747 points. PTI

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Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No	Availability of tender online for bidding on office hour only.		Date of opening (Technical Bid)
		From	To	
1	2	3	4	5
Executive Engineer, Kalahandi RWS&S Division, Bhawanipatna	22/EE/RWSS/2021-22 /Bpt Dated-22.06.2021	28.06.2021 10.00 AM	06.07.2021 05.30 PM	07.07.2021 10.00 AM onwards

**Cost of tender paper to be made online payment system.**  
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**No. 1506 Dtd.11.06.2021**

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- Tender Cost : Rs. 10,000/-
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- Date of opening of Technical Bid 13.07.2021 at 11.00 Hours.
- The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website [www.tendersodisha.gov.in](http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in).
- Any corrigendum / Addendum will be displayed in the website [www.tendersodisha.gov.in](http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in).

Sd/-Superintending Engineer  
Northern (R&B) Circle,  
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OIPR : 34035/11/0004/2122

## Haryana to give ₹6 cr to Tokyo Gold winner

Chandigarh: Haryana government on Wednesday announced that sports persons from the state who win Gold medal in the upcoming Tokyo Olympics would be given a cash amount of ₹6 crore.

The state Government will give the Silver winners ₹4 crore while the Bronze medalists will get ₹2.50 crore.

The state sports minister Sandeep Singh announced this while interacting with Olympic medalists on the occasion of International Olympic Day here, along with Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar.

Sandeep also said that 30 players taking part in the upcoming Tokyo Olympics have been provided ₹5 lakh each as preparation amount.

The Chief Minister said medal winners at the International events will be given Government jobs to encourage youngsters to take up to sports, a state Government statement said. PTI

## Call off Ashes if families can't accompany players: Vaughan

PTI ■ LONDON

Former England skipper Michael Vaughan believes the iconic Ashes series should be cancelled if families are not allowed to travel with the players for the four-month long tour of Australia due to strict Covid-19 protocols.

According to a report in the UK media, there is still uncertainty whether families of the visiting England players will be permitted to stay with them during the Ashes, beginning on December 8.

"Read reports today that England cricketers may not be able to have family members with them down under this winter. Quite simply if they can't they should call the Ashes off. 4 months away from your family is totally unacceptable. #Ashes, Vaughan wrote on his Twitter handle.

The report also drew a sharp response from former England captain Kevin Pietersen, who feels players



shouldn't be criticised if they decide to pull out of the series due to such restrictions.

"Any ENG player that pulls out of this Ashes, if they seriously can't see their families for FOUR MONTHS, has my full backing. Families are the most important part of a player's make up. And even more so in the current climate! FOUR MONTHS with no family on Ashes Tour?" he tweeted.

Crickets Australia, however, on Wednesday said that a solution can be worked out and the tournament is still

many months away. "It's only June and England are not due to arrive until November," a CA spokeswoman told the Sydney Morning Herald.

"We'll be going through the same process we did with India last summer."

England cricketers will not have their families with them for the upcoming tours of Bangladesh and Pakistan starting in September, before they participate in the T20 World Cup campaign from October.

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Date of opening of tender : 05.07.2021 at 11.00 AM  
Number of Work : 09 Nos.  
Class of Contractor : D & C, C & B  
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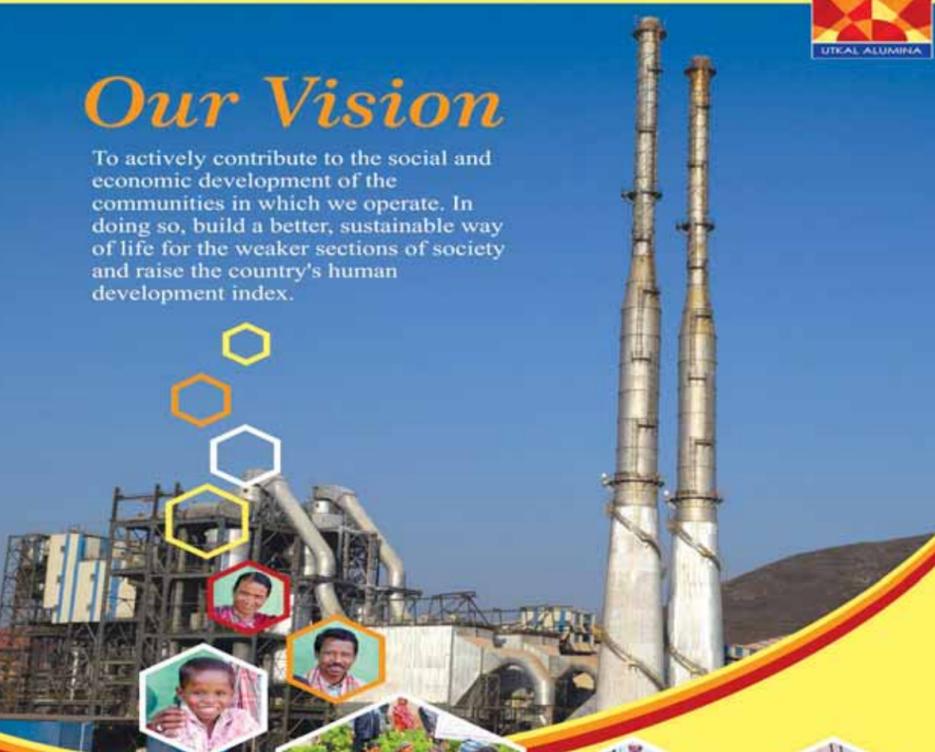
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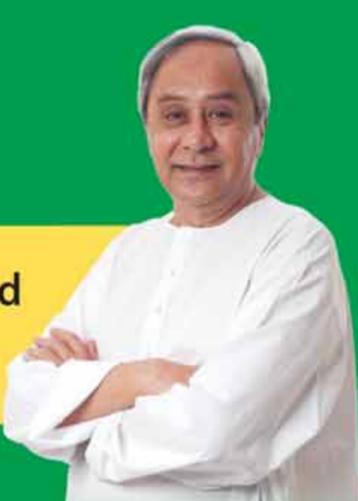
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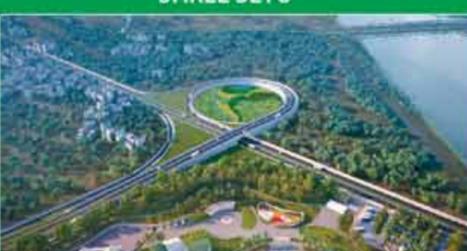
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